

survived him by a brief six days, when his youngest son, George W., Jr., was called to follow him.

Mr. Harrison was a very successful business man, exercising soundness of judgment and executive ability of a high order. He had the confidence of all who knew him, for he was scrupulously honest. His place was always kept in a neat and up-to-date manner and was a model which called forth the admiration of all who saw it.

On Thursday, May 16, 1907, Mr. Harrison met with a peculiar accident while carrying a roll of check-row wire down a flight of stairs. Slipping, he dropped the reel, driving one of the prongs into his foot. The accident was at first thought little of, but soon alarming symptoms of blood poisoning set in, which caused his death on June 1st, following, at the age of forty-nine years, six months and eleven days. The funeral was held at the farm residence, conducted by Rev. Mr. Allen, pastor of the Methodist Episcopal church at Pierson, Iowa, citizens for many miles around attending the services, and he now rests in the cemetery which is but a few rods from his home. Among those who survive him are C. C. Harrison and Misses Libbie and Carrie Harrison, brother and sisters.

Mr. Harrison was a man beloved in the community where he had lived for nearly twenty years. He took an abiding interest in public affairs and held a number of offices of trust and responsibility, to the satisfaction of all concerned. He was widely known in his chosen vocation as stock man. He loved the freedom of the farm. Delighting in good stock, his pastures and yards were all well filled with a good grade of well-cared-for stock of various kinds. While inclined to be radical in his views, his teachings were always of a strictly moral, temperate and uplifting nature. He was independent in his views, thinking for himself regardless of the opinions of others, being a leader and not a follower. He was particularly active in temperance work and under his presidency the local organization was unusually popular and efficient. What he did for the cause of temperance, the church, the local cemetery, the schools, the farmers' institute and for good roads will be a lasting monument to his memory.

George W. Harrison, Jr., mentioned above, son of the late George W., Sr., and Elma Frances Harrison, was born in Grand Meadow township, Cherokee county, Iowa, April 14, 1891, and died June 7, 1907, as previously mentioned, dying in the very room and house where he was born, being then sixteen years, one month and twenty-four days old. "Georgie," as he was familiarly called, was a quiet, industrious, home-loving boy, preferring the companionship of the family to that of any other. He was a great reader

of good books and was very fond of reading the Bible and books of religious teaching. His inclination was for study rather than that of farming. He was ambitious to obtain a good education and to honorably occupy some position of prominence, and had he lived, no doubt these would have been fully realized. On June 4, 1907, he was seized with acute appendicitis, which resulted in his death three days later, physicians attributing his rapid decline, if not his death, to grief over the death of his father. In his last hours he was happy and hopeful, and seemed to have a glimpse of the heavenly home beyond. He spoke of seeing a great multitude of people in a most beautiful place and among them his own father, who had so recently preceded him. Repeatedly he said, "I am so happy," and seemed conscious that he must die, bidding each good-by, one by one, patiently bearing his affliction as had his father before him, and departed smiling, and without a tear. Every word he spoke, during his last hours, was of cheer and comfort. Shortly before his death he said to his brothers, "On the roof, just over my bed, is a white dove. Go out and see." They went, came back, and said, "Yes, Georgie, there is a white dove sitting on the roof." Then he added, "I am going to die."

He called his relatives into the room, and for an hour talked, as young people rarely do when waiting for the "tide that bears us across the bar," saying among other things, "You must promise me you will not cry, because I am leaving this world for a place so beautiful, so pure."

The funeral services were a reproduction of those of the father a few days before, in that they were held in the home, conducted by the same pastor, and the same arrangements and hour were as on the previous occasion, and although the rain came down in torrents there was a large audience of mourners as the remains were laid to rest beside those of the father. In his case the line from the famous old Latin poet, "Whom the gods love, die early," is applicable, also a later line, "Perhaps 'tis best as 'twas willed to be—God knows."

JOHN D. DOOLEY.

This old and highly esteemed business man, also a veteran of the Civil war, was born on board the sailing vessel "Douglass," May 6, 1840, while his parents, John and Ellen (Galway) Dooley, were en route from Ireland to the United States. After spending two years in New York, the family removed to Wisconsin, thence at the end of eleven years to Fayette county,

locating in the fall of 1853 about one and one-half miles northwest of the village of Fayette on a tract of land which John Dooley purchased from the government. Here young John D. was set to work, clearing, grubbing and fitting the land for cultivation and on this place he grew to young manhood, bearing his full share in the development and improvement of the farm and otherwise looking after the interests of his parents. With his father he did considerable teaming for several years to and from McGregor and later moved with the family to the village of Westfield, where his father's death subsequently occurred; his wife survived him a number of years, finally dying of old age.

From 1859 until 1861 inclusive John D. Dooley attended school in the old seminary at Fayette, devoting the summer seasons to farm labor in the vicinity. In September of the latter year he enlisted in Company F, Third Iowa Infantry, and during the ensuing three years shared with his comrades all of the terrible realities of warfare in the Southland, taking part in a number of campaigns and not a few battles, including Shiloh, siege of Vicksburg, Jackson, Mississippi, Hatchie River, and the various engagements which led to the fall of Atlanta, besides numerous skirmishes and minor actions. The loss of his command was especially heavy in the charge on the enemy's breastworks at Jackson, also at Atlanta, where the Third Iowa was in an exposed position and obliged to bear the brunt of the fighting. After three years of strenuous and faithful service, he was discharged at Eastport, Georgia, following the surrender of Atlanta, and, returning home, immediately thereafter turned his attention to agricultural pursuits, which he followed for a period of two years. Before entering the army he had taught several terms of school and in 1868, while in Greene county, Missouri, for a short time, taught a part of the year in that state, meeting with splendid success in a school from which his predecessor had been forcibly ejected from the building by unruly scholars.

Returning from the above state to Fayette county, Mr. Dooley located two and a half miles west of Randalia, Center township, where for a period of thirty-three years he lived the life of a tiller of the soil and at the expiration of that time removed to Hawkeye, his present place of residence. While in the above township he served six years on the board of supervisors and for twenty years was one of the best known and most successful public auctioneers in Fayette county, his services as such having been in great demand throughout a large area of territory. Since locating at Hawkeye Mr. Dooley has been engaged in the real estate business, in connection with which he also does a large and successful business as a collector, besides attending

to such legal matters as may be referred to him, there being no regular attorney in the town. During the last ten years he has been justice of the peace, an office for which his practical intelligence and well balanced judgment, natural love of justice and knowledge of the law peculiarly fit him. Much important litigation comes before his court and such has been the fairness of his rulings and the justness of his decisions that but few of the latter have been appealed to higher tribunals. His services have been frequently in demand in the settlement of estates, to act as trustee and to look after various interests, and it is needless to state that he has proven capable in all of his business relations and faithful to every trust reposed in him by his fellow citizens.

Mr. Dooley has been much in the public eye, takes an active part in all questions and issues of the times and is a politician of no little influence, being a stanch supporter of the Republican party and one of its recognized leaders in the county of Fayette. He belongs to the Grand Army of the Republic, in which he is a leading worker, and is also identified with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and in 1872 was initiated into Pleiades Lodge, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, at Fayette, and since that time has been a zealous worker in the order, being a charter member of the blue lodge at Hawkeye, and one of the few now living who went into the original organization.

Mr. Dooley was married March 27, 1865, to Jennie Wells, daughter of Joshua and Eliza (Butler) Wells, the father a pioneer of Fayette county, moving here in 1849 from Wisconsin and selling goods for several years prior to the Civil war. After a residence of about thirty years in this county, he moved to Oregon, where he spent the remainder of his days, dying at the age of eighty-two. Mr. and Mrs. Dooley are the parents of nine children, of whom five sons and a daughter are living, namely: Lewis L., of Pittsburg, Pennsylvania; John Edward, a manufacturer of various patent rights, near Fond du Lac, Wisconsin; May L., who married D. W. Hughes and lives on a farm near Hawkeye; Rutherford E., proprietor of a hotel in Hamilton, Missouri; Anson R., a musician in the United States Artillery Coast Band, now at Fort Warden, Washington, formerly in the Philippine Islands, and Lester, who took a special course in the Upper Iowa University, graduating in June, 1910, and is now principal of the high school at Canda, North Dakota. Before entering that institution he taught for several years and at one time was principal of the high school of Plymouth, this state. Mr. Dooley's sons are intelligent, wide-awake, progressive men and stand high in their respective places of residence. The name is respected wherever known

and thus far the honor of the family is unsullied by a single unworthy act on the part of any of its members.

REUBEN F. ROGERS.

The gentleman whose name introduces this sketch, an old and highly esteemed citizen of Fayette county, was born in Vermont, October 17, 1837, and grew to maturity amid the romantic scenes of his native state, receiving the meanwhile superior scholastic training and devoting his early life to work on his father's farm. In 1858 he came to Iowa and, after spending a year in Winneshiek county, changed his residence to the county of Fayette, where he taught school the following winter, and in 1861, shortly after the breaking out of the Civil war, entered the army and gave one year to the service of his country. While at the front he took part in the campaign against Forts Henry and Donelson, and it was owing to exposure in the battle at the latter place that he became sick and was obliged to leave the ranks at the expiration of the period indicated. Returning to Fayette county, he resumed educational work and was thus engaged in Eden and other townships for about twelve consecutive years, earning an honorable reputation as an able teacher and doing much to introduce improved methods of instruction in the schools of this part of the state. Later, in connection with his school work, he operated during certain months of the year a threshing machine and followed the business at intervals until 1884, at which time he conducted the store for F. I. Luce. He engaged in general merchandising in Waucoma from 1884 to 1886 with a Mr. W. D. Stafford, being now in business at Eden.

Mr. Rogers's influence on educational thought in Fayette county has been great, and, as indicated in a preceding paragraph, he stood high as a teacher and was instrumental in arousing an interest in behalf of public schools which led to beneficial results in after years. Since engaging in merchandising he has devoted his attention very closely to business and now has a well stocked store and a large and lucrative patronage, the village of Eden being the center of a fine section of country and a trading point for the same. In politics, he is a Republican and a zealous supporter of the principles of his party, but he has never aspired to leadership nor disturbed his quiet by seeking the honors or emoluments of office.

On February 6, 1864, Mr. Rogers was united in marriage with Clara C. Utter, whose parents, Ira and Mary Utter, came from Wisconsin to Fay-

ette county in 1853 and settled in Auburn township, removing thence in 1855 to the township of Eden. Mr. Utter died some years ago in Windsor township, his wife afterwards moving to Kansas City, Missouri, and is now deceased. Mrs. Rogers and her sister, Mrs. Hattie Stafford, wife of Warren Stafford, are the only representatives of the family now living in the county of Fayette. They have three brothers in Kansas, viz: Albert W., George Emmett and Frank E. Utter, and one, Fred E., in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Mrs. Rogers received a good education and commenced teaching at the early age of seventeen in the public schools of Fayette county. She continued this line of work until her marriage and was also similarly engaged for several years thereafter, achieving repute as a teacher, as is indicated by her retention for several consecutive terms in the same district. Five children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Rogers, namely: Rollie, a carpenter and thresher, living at Eden; Rossie M., wife of F. I. Luce, whose sketch appears elsewhere in these pages; Willie N., editor of the *Hawkeye Beacon*; Leona C., principal of the Ft. Atkins high school, and Ray W., a talented musician and teacher of music, also a skilled engineer and an expert in almost any kind of mechanical work. All of these children are well educated and possess more than ordinary ability and, with the exception of W. N., all taught and met with gratifying success as trainers of the young.

ERNST BAECHLER.

Among the thrifty German element in Fayette county who have come to us from the fatherland and have benefited alike themselves and the community where they have settled by their wholesome and straightforward lives and by that enterprising capacity for energetic, well directed effort and close application to the work in hand which amounts almost to genius, is Ernst Baechler, who is now a prosperous farmer in Pleasant Valley township. Mr. Baechler was born in Germany, on April 5, 1865, his parents, John and Magdalena (Freiburghaus) Baechler, both being natives of that country. The former being a man of unusual straightforward character and being attracted to the new republic in the west by the call of his wife's brother, by whom he had heard of the great opportunities and was assisted with enough funds to be able for him and his family to sail for America in the year 1876. He came direct to Elgin with his family, which consisted of three girls and

two boys. His profession in Germany was that of tailor, but after taking up his residence in Elgin he did not follow that business exclusively, but spent some time in mason work as well as other occupations which he found lucrative.

Ernst Baechler's education, which had been begun in Germany, was continued in the public schools at Elgin. After finishing his course of study he struck out boldly for himself, working by the month from his boyhood until he was twenty-four years of age. He then determined that he would become a landowner, and as a preliminary step rented a place known as the old Ritcherton farm on the West Union road. Here the Teutonic characteristics which have won success for the large majority of the people of German birth or extraction who have assisted materially in developing the agricultural possibilities of the West, asserted themselves, and it was not long before he was able to purchase the splendid one hundred and fifty-acre tract where he at present makes his home. Here he has erected new buildings throughout—a house that is very much more than a comfortable dwelling, with very attractive surroundings, excellent outbuildings, new, strong and durable fences; in fact, he has one of the substantial and highly cultivated farms in the community. In addition to general farming, Mr. Baechler conducts a large dairy business and pays particular attention to the breeding of Poland China hogs, in which he is especially successful and in which he takes pardonable pride, for the pure breed he produces is widely and favorably known.

In 1902 Mr. Baechler married Rosa Baumgardner, daughter of Benedict Baumgardner, a sketch of whom appears elsewhere in this volume. Three children have been born to them, Selma, John Alfred and Mebbert, who was born October 9, 1909.

Mr. and Mrs. Baechler are members of the Baptist church and are actively interested in the work which the church carries on. The parents of Mr. Baechler were charter members of the Baptist church of Elgin. Mr. Baechler is a Republican in politics, although he is not an office aspirant.

JOHN HOSFORD.

John Hosford, grandfather of Mrs. Hance Shipton, was born in Franklin county, New York, December 27, 1821, the son of John and Hepsy (Gilbert) Hosford, his mother a native of Connecticut, his father of Vermont.

John, senior, was drafted in the war of 1812 and was present at the battle of Lake Champlain. He farmed throughout life. John, junior, was one of ten children, and received a very limited education in New York. He began life as a farmer in New York, then in 1852 went to California, mined until the winter of 1853-4, which he spent in New York, and in May, 1854, came to Fayette county and located at Clermont, bringing with him his wife and one child. Here he built the first brick house in the township. For several years he was engaged in a grocery store, and from that got into general business. The quality of his support of the Republican party is shown by the fact that he has voted for every Republican candidate for president save one. For fifteen years he was the efficient justice of the peace for Clermont. He was married in New York in 1853, to Cload Martin and they were the parents of four children: Henry G., Dewitt Clinton, Ellen I. and Flora D. Mr. Hosford is one of the most respected citizens of his village, and is now one of the oldest. His declining years can be spent in the happy consciousness of a past life full of endeavor.

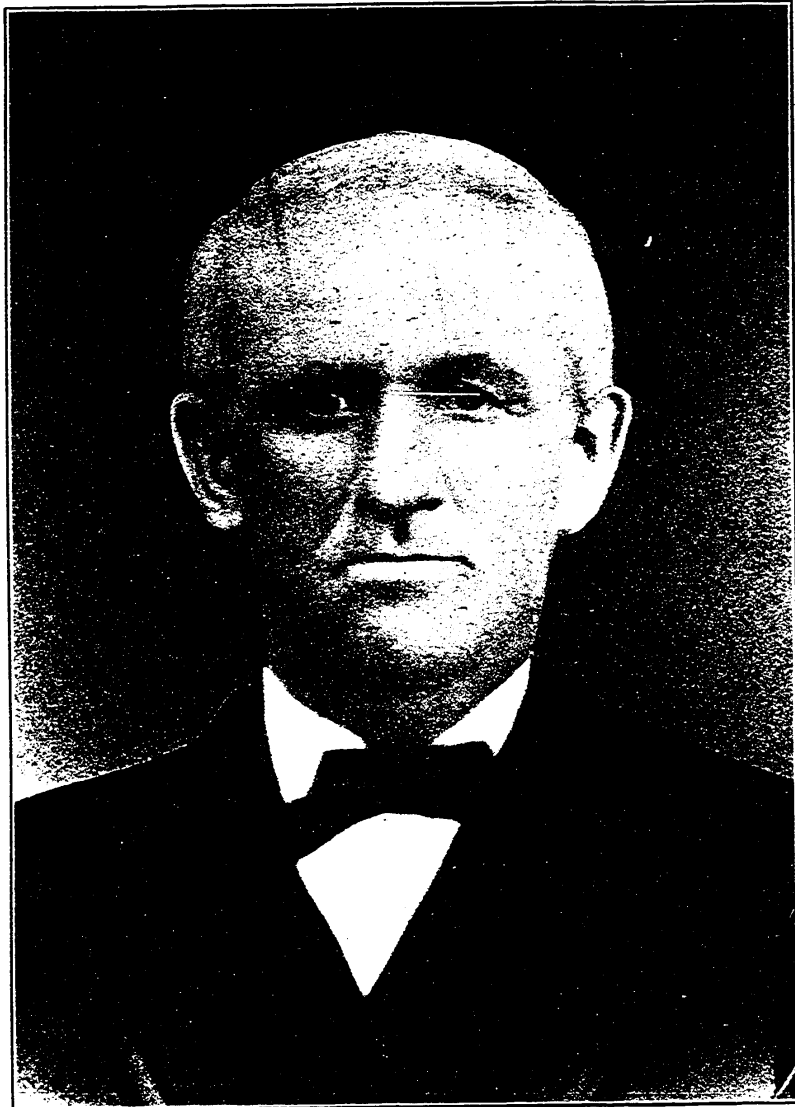
JACOB WHORLEY, SR.

On the 16th of December, 1816, in Menthal Brugg, canton Aargau, the beautiful vineyard region of Switzerland, Jacob Whorley was born. His parents dying in his seventh year, he was placed in the care of his grandmother. Under these adverse conditions, however, he secured a good education in the fatherland and was early christened and confirmed into the faith by the church of Martin Luther.

He proved to be a young man of abstemious habits, and was very ambitious to do something for himself in the world's battle for place. He, like many in the Old World, had heard of the opportunities in America, and in 1838 he emigrated, alone, to this country. At that time the voyage required at least a month, but stormy seas prolonged the journey to six weeks. Finally, he reached Utica, New York, armed with nothing but willing hands and a determination to better himself in any way possible.

He remained in this place four years, clerking much of the time. Then, attracted by the opening in the West, he again migrated and settled in Stoton, Wisconsin. Here he spent ten years, working, for the most part, at farm labor. He became acquainted there with many people who, in 1853, moved with him, by means of ox teams, to this part of Iowa.

Just previously, he had united in marriage with Eunice Bevins, who pre-



JACOB WHORLEY.



FRED J. WHORLEY AND SON, JACOB WHORLEY, JR.

ceded him in death eighteen years ago. Through this union seven children were born, three of whom died in early life, the remaining ones being Frank E., of West Union; Luzette F., Frances G., and Fred J., of Hawkeye, the subject of the following sketch. Seventeen years ago Mr. Whorley was again united in marriage with Mrs. Louisa Stebbins, who followed him within three days to the Great Beyond. They, together, spent these years in the home at Waucoma.

Jacob Whorley became a successful farmer and for forty years lived on the old place, near Smoketown. He was one of the hardy pioneers who did much to transform the virgin prairie of this country into the present state of high value and productivity, and his departure is regretted deeply by his scores of old friends and neighbors who worked with him in this transformation. He was a true friend to all true to him. His example of constant industry was a benefit to many, and his bright disposition, even in his most mature years, was a matter of comment by all who knew him.

FRED J. WHORLEY.

Fred J. Whorley, the subject of this sketch, was born near Hawkeye, Fayette county, Iowa, in 1865. He was reared in Bethel township, on the old home farm where his birth occurred, and, excepting one year spent in California, he has always remained a resident of Fayette county. The old place is historically remarkable in that it was granted to Jacob Whorley by the federal government in 1851 by a patent bearing the signature and seal of Millard Fillmore, then the thirteenth President of the United States. The improvements were originally made of stone taken from quarries on the place, and these unique buildings will continue to stand for generations because of their unusual construction. The place has recently received additional improvements which make it modern in every respect. It is now known as Fairview Farm.

Fred Whorley received his education in the local district school, and, adopting the life of a farmer, he remained such until the fall of 1899, when, at the request of his father, he moved to Waucoma to care for his aged parents. In 1910 he moved to Hawkeye, of which place he is now a resident.

In 1886 Mr. Whorley was united in marriage to Anna M. Kirkendall, who was born and reared in Eden township, Fayette county. Her father, John Kirkendall, was born in Pennsylvania, and her mother, Katheryn Ben-

der, in Indiana. While Mrs. Whorley was yet an infant, her mother died, leaving the child to the care of Albert Lee and wife, the latter being the oldest sister of Mrs. Whorley. In 1897 Mr. and Mrs. Whorley informally adopted Harry E. Tullar, who was left an orphan at eight years of age. His mother may be remembered as Eva Peters, who for a number of years was a successful teacher in Fayette county. Harry was graduated from the Waucoma high school in 1903. He has taught successively in the district schools of the county, in the grades at Waucoma and as principal at Westgate and later at Waucoma. He has attended Upper Iowa University, where he was prominent in debate and oratory. He later entered his present course in law at the State University of Iowa, where, in 1909, he was leader of the champion debate.

Jacob Whorley, their second boy, was born February 17, 1906, the remarkable feature of his birth being that his parents had been married twenty-two years at the time and his grandfather was ninety-two years old. Jacob is unusually bright and successfully sang in public at three years of age.

Fred Whorley has been a respected citizen wherever he has lived and has been a faithful member of the Odd Fellows for a number of years. He was a charter member of the Fayette County Automobile Club and has extensive business interests.

HANCE FRANKLIN SHIPTON.

To no one else can the life of any one have the same significance which it has for its possessor. No one else so completely knows our hopes and fears, our ambitions and our motives, the things which make life worth living. Nor can we judge by outward show the proper valuation to place on the life of a comparatively obscure farmer. In his community he may stand high above others,—even so his distinction is lost in the mass of others in the nation. But so is the distinction which the men acquire whom we judge greatest by our standards, but fleeting and evanescent, and perhaps in some truer test of character and worth than worldly distinction the plain farmers may overbalance them.

Hance Franklin Shipton was born in Fayette county, Iowa, on September 12, 1861, the son of Joseph Shipton, a native of Lincolnshire, England, and Sarah (Cummings) Shipton, a native of Canada, who came to Fayette county in 1851 and took up one hundred and sixty acres of government land which he farmed until his death, October 19, 1903, and where his wife died August

13, 1895. He was one of the organizers of the Clermont Valley Creamery Company, established in 1890, and was its first treasurer. He was a Republican, and an ardent member of the United Brethren church, in the work of which he was always very active. He was a man of strong and admirable Christian character. He was the father of nine children, four of whom are now living.

Hance Franklin Shipton was brought up on the farm he now owns and was educated in the public schools of the county. He rented his father's farm for eighteen years, then bought it, and now has two hundred and forty acres. His farming has been general in character. When the creamery was organized he was a member of the building committee, was director for about three years, and in 1900 was made president of the company and has since held that office, discharging its duties in such a manner as to add greatly to the success of the undertaking. He is a Republican. In 1884 he was married to Bertha May Hosford, a native of Wisconsin, the daughter of Henry Hosford and Myra (Wason) Hosford. Ten children have been born to them: Joseph H., Ella N. (deceased), Myra S., T. Franklin, John B., Addie M., Ruth R., Harry R., Bertha and one who died in infancy. Mr. Shipton is ranked by all among the most prosperous and most progressive farmers of the county. His farm is one which attracts attention by the manner in which it is cultivated.

FRANK G. GEHRING.

Among the German immigrants who came over during the last quarter of the first half of the nineteenth century were the families of Gehring and Farvers. Josephine Farver came in 1852, when twenty-one years old, and secured employment in a coat and vest factory in New York. From there she came to Ohio and married Sebastian Kniel, who died about a year later, leaving a son named Charles, who is now a grocer in Elgin, Iowa. In 1856 Mrs. Kniel married George Gehring, who had come to Ohio when fourteen years old, with his parents, both of whom died in the Buckeye state. The father was a blacksmith. In 1857 Mr. and Mrs. George Gehring removed to Iowa and settled in Fayette county in the township of Illyria. Mr. Gehring bought a tract of one hundred and seventy acres of wild land, put in many years clearing and improving it and made his home on this place until his death by a stroke of lightning in 1869, which left his affairs in some confusion. He was a member of the German Lutheran church and active in all the affairs that

lead to good citizenship. He had five sons and among them was Frank G. Gehring, who was born in Illyria township, Fayette county, Iowa, in 1859. He attended the district schools during his early youth and after his father's death assisted his mother in operating the farm until all the children were of age. When twenty-two years old, Frank G. Gehring engaged in the carpenter business and also ran a thresher during the seasons of harvest. In January, 1891, he entered the hardware business at Wadena as an individual, and operated the same until 1892, when he traded for a farm in Illyria township. During the succeeding years, ten in number, he was engaged in agricultural pursuits on a farm of one hundred and ninety acres which he managed successfully and profitably. He attempted no fancy farming, but contents himself with the regular routine of general farming and stock raising. In 1902 he erected at Elgin the comfortable home in which he has since resided. From 1903 to 1906 he was road foreman of the township of Pleasant Valley and during the next two years he was in the implement business. Of late he has confined himself to looking after his agricultural interests.

In 1891 Mr. Gehring married Mary, daughter of William and Sarah Kimpson, and they have two children: Alma, aged sixteen years, and William, aged twelve. Mrs. Gehring died November 10, 1908. Mr. Gehring is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Modern Woodmen of America. He has always been an active member of the Republican party and one of the local leaders. He served for six years as assessor of Illyria township and at present is trustee of Pleasant Valley township.

J. H. STOLLE.

The Northwest has profited greatly by the Scandinavian immigration. This stream that was destined to so greatly enrich western America, began flowing in about the middle of the last century, but did not reach the high tide until some years later. The influx was chiefly from Sweden, but Norway also contributed liberally. These people took part in the development of the Northwest during its formative period and their sturdy characters, industrious habits and economical dispositions left a strong impress on the Dakotas, Minnesota and Wisconsin, Nebraska and Iowa. The Swedes or Norwegians entered the trades, in which their painstaking qualities always brought success. But most of them bought land and became farmers. Any one familiar with the Northwest will recall thousands of trim and well cultivated farms

and neat homes, all due to years of hard work and good management of thrifty Scandinavians. They soon became features of the public life of their respective communities, taking active part in all progressive movements, after holding the offices and administering them with an economy and honesty that is second nature to these worthy people. Iowa was fortunate in getting her share of the virile people from northern Europe. Scarcely a county in the state but was well supplied and the names of thousands of farm owners will be found to possess a decidedly Norse flavor. Mainly, the Scandinavians came over with limited means and often they had not a dollar after they reached their destinations. How they worked up from poor farm hands to become landowners on a larger scale was a mystery of their American associates. The real secret was their saving faculty. No matter how small their wages, they always managed to lay by the principal part of them, which eventually was judiciously invested in land.

This sketch deals with a typical family of the kind described above, whose descendants are now among the most respected and prosperous of Fayette county citizens. Hans Johnson Stolle, a native of Norway, after vainly trying to "catch on" satisfactorily in the country of his birth, finally decided to join the throng going to the land of promise beyond the sea. He had heard great stories of the opportunities and possibilities of the American Northwest, which was then being opened for settlement, and determined to try his fortunes in this promising land of hope for the poor. With his wife Sarah, he took ship a short time before the Civil war and landed in America when the storm clouds betokened the advent of that dreadful conflict. Directing their course across the Mississippi, this little party eventually landed at Ossian, where the father worked by the day to support his family. Later they removed to Eldorado and then to the south part of Clermont township, where the elder Stolle became a farmer. In due course of time both father and mother passed away, leaving six children, of whom three are still living.

J. H. Stolle, one of this family, was born in Norway, November 15, 1861, and was an infant when his parents crossed the ocean. He obtained his education in the district schools, by attending irregularly during the winter and working in summer. From earliest boyhood he has made his own way, getting the hardest but most valuable of educations which comes from the life of a boy and man on a farm. At first he labored as a common farm hand, taking whatever job he could find and always attending it in such a way that his employer wanted to hire him again. But he had no idea of spending his life in drudgery and as early as 1882, when he was only twenty-one years old, we find him buying forty acres of land in Pleasant Valley township, contain-

ing twenty-four acres of timber. He spent sixteen years on this small place, during which time he improved it greatly in many ways, including suitable buildings, fencing and other conveniences essential to up-to-date farms. In 1898 he purchased forty acres in Clermont township, then seventy-eight in Pleasant Valley township, then the one hundred and twenty acres where he now resides, in Pleasant Valley township, his postoffice being Elgin. Eventually he purchased the eighty-eight acres on which his father had lived and one hundred and ninety-five acres north of West Union. He is now an extensive land owner, as will be seen, and has prospered as the result of his hard work and skillful management. He gives all his attention to farming and has made his home place one of the most attractive in the county. He has always been fond of good livestock and keeps a fine grade of Shorthorn cattle. He is regarded as a model farmer and has the confidence of all his neighbors. The Stolle family for generations have been members of the Lutheran church and the present representatives of the name keep up this same denominational connection. On February 11, 1891, Mr. Stolle married Helen Thorson and has five children, Hans, Alfred, Stella, Helen and Richard. They are people of quiet, unassuming manners, but those who visit their household find them hospitable and those who deal with them find them scrupulously honest.

THOMAS POWERS.

It is oftentimes considered by those in the habit of superficial thinking that the history of so-called great men only is worthy of preservation and that little merit exists among the masses to call forth the praises of the historian or the cheers and the appreciation of mankind. A greater mistake was never made. No man is great in all things and very few are great in many things. Many by a lucky stroke achieve lasting fame, who before that had no reputation beyond the limits of their neighborhoods. It is not a history of the lucky stroke which benefits humanity most, but the long study and effort which made the lucky stroke possible. It is the preliminary work, the method, that serves as a guide for the success of others. Among those in this county who have achieved success along steady lines of action is the subject of this review.

Mr. Powers is a native of the township in which he now lives and was born on November 30, 1873. His parents were Matthew and Margaret (Phalen) Powers, the former born in Ireland in 1834 and the latter in Clayton county, Iowa, in 1844. Matthew Powers came to Fayette county in the

latter fifties, and to Clermont township in 1865. To him and his wife were born ten children, of which number five are living. Mr. Powers was a successful farmer, having accumulated a fair amount of material property solely through his own efforts. He was a Democrat in political faith and a Catholic in religion. He was widely known because of his ability and sturdy integrity. He became the owner of seven hundred and twenty acres of land, which comprised one of the finest estates in this part of the county. The deaths of this worthy couple occurred within a little more than two months of each other, both in 1900, the father on September 4th and the mother on June 29th.

Thomas Powers spent his boyhood days on the parental farmstead and attended the common schools of the neighborhood, receiving a good practical education. He has devoted his entire life to farming and his fine farm of one hundred and eighty-five acres in Clermont township is, under his wise management, made the source of a comfortable income. The place is well improved and is practically all in cultivation, the general appearance of the place being creditable in every respect. Besides raising all the common crops, Mr. Powers gives some attention to the breeding and raising of livestock, in which he has uniformly met with fair success. He has been a hard worker, and this, combined with careful management, has been the contributing element to his success.

Since attaining his majority, Mr. Powers has consistently supported the Democratic party at the polls, believing the policy of that party as embodied in its platforms to be that best adapted to the interests of the common people. In religion he is a devoted member of the Catholic church, to which the members of his family also belong.

On February 13, 1901, Mr. Powers was happily married to Stella Devery, who was born at Clermont, this county, on September 20, 1877, the daughter of Owen and Anne (Curran) Devery. Owen Devery was born in Kings county, Ireland, in 1820, and his wife was born in Illinois in 1843, their union resulting in the birth of six children, all of whom are living. He was a farmer by vocation and in an early day he came to Fayette county and took up four hundred and eighty acres of government land. He died in 1876 and was survived many years by his widow, whose death occurred on February 8, 1894. To Mr. and Mrs. Powers have been born three children, Donald, deceased, Frank and James.

Mr. Powers has contributed to the prosperity of the community in which he lives, at the same time enhancing his own material welfare, and because of his straightforward actions, unquestioned integrity and ability he has won and retains the good opinion of all who know him.

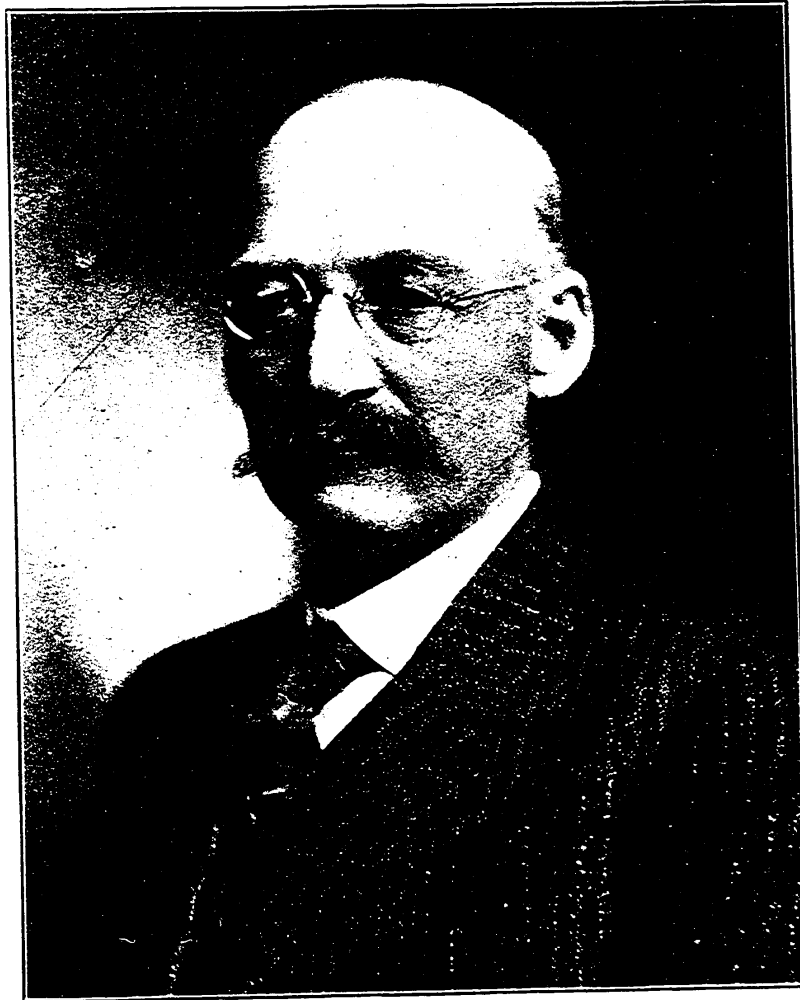
H. S. HADSELL, M. D.

No man, more deservedly than a doctor, stands high in a village community. He is fitted by education and training to be a leader, his profession brings him into peculiar confidential relations with the people, and especially makes him familiar with their sorrows. No other profession demands so much of tact and sympathy, no other calls for senses so alert and reliable, for such well trained powers of observation and memory. For ages man has fought grim disease and slowly but surely is wresting ground from the foe. Cures are accomplished every day that would have been impossible a generation ago, and miracles are done in the way of the prevention of disease. Even so, medical science is but in its beginnings and no field of research is more fascinating or more fruitful to the trained student.

H. S. Hadsell was born in Susquehanna county, Pennsylvania, January 10, 1852, the son of H. L. and Sophia (Richardson) Hadsell, natives. The first of the name coming to America was James Hadsell, a sea captain, who settled in Connecticut in 1736. From there some of his descendants removed to Pennsylvania, settling in or near the Wyoming valley, where one was killed at the Wyoming massacre during the Revolutionary war. From the Wyoming valley his paternal grandfather removed to Susquehanna county, in that state, where his father was born. His maternal grandfather was of Scotch descent, the family being pioneers of Harford, Pennsylvania, and one of them numbered among the nine original settlers of Harford, who came from eastern Massachusetts and bought a tract of land there. They established a seminary there, which now would be called a college, and Lyman Richardson, a great-uncle of H. S. Hadsell, was made president at its foundation. It was open to all students wishing admission. Doctor Hadsell is one of the few Americans who are so fortunate as to be able to trace their ancestry to Revolutionary soldiers, for quite a number of the Hadsells and the Richardsons were in the Revolution, some as officers.

The Doctor's father, a carpenter, came West in 1865. He had attempted to enlist in the army, but was rejected because of the loss of part of his hand. He located in Cedar Rapids with his family, consisting of his wife, one son and two daughters. He worked at his trade there for a year, then bought a farm in the north part of Linn county and farmed there until 1879, when he removed to Maynard, Iowa, where he lived with the Doctor, his wife dying there in 1882, and himself in December, 1902.

The Doctor attended college at Cedar Rapids, and later went to Beloit College at Beloit, Wisconsin, where he pursued a liberal arts course. He took



H. S. HADSELL, M. D.

his first work in medicine at the University of Michigan, then practiced at Sumner and Maynard before finishing his course. He began practice in 1873 and graduated in 1882. After graduation he practiced at West Union for over two years, then went to Maynard, and came to Elgin in 1894, where he has since practiced. In 1875 he married Hettie L. Latimer, and to their union two children have been born, Harry, in 1877, and Fred, in 1880.

Doctor Hadsell is a member of Silverleaf Lodge No. 518, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, of Unity Chapter No. 62, Royal Arch Masons, and of Langridge Commandery No. 47, Knights Templar. He is a member of the County, State and American Medical Associations, and of the board of United States pension examiners of Fayette county. He is mayor of Elgin. He is deeply interested in his profession, consequently has been successful, and ranks high among the physicians of his section of the state. As a man, his standing is irreproachable.

GEORGE A. RICHMOND.

The subject of this sketch was born in Oswego, New York, January 24, 1844, and is a son of Stephen and Sylvia Richmond, both natives of the Empire state. Stephen Richmond, whose birth occurred on June 3, 1807, was twice married, his first wife bearing him three children, of whom Lorenzo Richmond is now a well known resident of Waucoma, Iowa. The second marriage was solemnized September 15, 1839, with Sylvia Stephens, who was born May 14, 1812, and departed this life May 12, 1885, her husband dying March 23, 1878. Stephen and Sylvia Richmond had nine children, seven of whom grew to maturity, viz: Lorinda Madora, who married John Sears, of Wisconsin, and who died three years ago in Iowa; George A., of this sketch; Garrett Uriah; Harriet; Sylvia; Ann Jennette, who married Jacob Craft and lives near Nevada, Missouri, where her sister, Mrs. Smith, also resides. Garrett W., who died during the war, and Harriet M., who lives in Sheboygan, Wisconsin, were twins. Albert P. Richmond was born May 24, 1855, came to Iowa with the family and for a number of years has been a partner of the subject in farming and stock raising.

In 1845, when about one year old, George A. Richmond was taken to Wisconsin and for some time thereafter the family lived in the counties of Waukesha and Fond du Lac, that state, removing to the latter place when the subject was about nine years of age. He spent his boyhood at hard work in

the woods, helping to clear a new farm and enjoying but limited educational advantages the meanwhile. In fact nearly all of his youth and young manhood were devoted to cutting timber, grubbing and the various other kinds of strenuous labor required to remove the forest growth and fit the soil for cultivation. After his father received an injury which practically disabled him, the care of the farm and support of the family fell to young George, who right manfully discharged the trust. By diligent and well directed effort he succeeded in clearing up about one hundred and forty acres, but desiring more land, which would not be so difficult to cultivate, the farm was sold in 1869 and the same year the family moved to Iowa and purchased land in Windsor township, Fayette county, about four and a half miles southwest of West Union, where the father's death subsequently occurred.

After living on the above farm about twelve years, the subject and his brother, Albert D., purchased, in 1881, the farm in Eden township which they still own and which under their combined labor and management is now one of the finest country homes in the county of Fayette. The place, which contains two hundred and sixty-five acres, was purchased from the government about the year 1852 or 1853 by a Mr. Finch and originally consisted quite largely of timber, hickory predominating, the labor required to remove this and grub the land being very hard and exacting. When bought by the Richmond brothers only a small part was in cultivation, the house being a tumble-down log cabin and the few fences in poor repair. Owing to this indifferent condition the price asked was not large, ranging from five to fifteen dollars per acre, although land in the vicinity was then bringing from eighteen to twenty dollars per acre.

The place was considered a bargain and it was not long until a series of improvements were inaugurated which, when carried to completion, added greatly to the appearance and value of the farm, making it, as already indicated, among the best of Eden township, and second to few if any in the county. Over six thousand dollars have been invested in the improvements since the farm came into the possession of the present owners. The dwelling, one of the finest in the county, is a beautiful modern edifice, heated by furnace and equipped with all the latest conveniences, including bath, cistern, etc., nothing being spared to make it comfortable and attractive to the end that it may prove a home in the true sense of the term and the one spot dearer than all others to the inmates.

The Richmond brothers carry on general farming quite extensively, much of the farm consisting of fine bottom land especially adapted to agriculture. They also devote considerable attention to stock raising, besides

conducting a very successful dairy business, keeping from thirty to thirty-five cows, selected with special reference to their value as milkers and meeting with ready sale for the entire product. George A. Richmond has never assumed the duties and responsibilities of matrimony, but his brother, Albert D., on December 25, 1889, was united in marriage with Nellie A. Lush, daughter of Oscar T. and Cornelia (Murphy) Lush, then of Eden township, but now living in North Dakota. Mrs. Richmond was born in Butler county, Iowa, but came to Eden township with her parents when fifteen years old and grew to maturity on a farm near Waucoma. She taught school for some years in this county, receiving her certificate from Col. G. W. Fitch and while thus engaged earned a creditable reputation for her success with children and young people. Mr. and Mrs. Richmond are the parents of children as follows: Nellie Eleanora, who died at the early age of two years; Florence May, born September 13, 1892, was educated in the Waucoma high school and is now a student of music in Upper Iowa University; Ralph A., born September 24, 1894, is pursuing his studies in the high school at Waucoma, and Earl V., whose birth occurred January 21, 1898, departed this life on the 8th of March, 1903. In addition to their own offspring, Mr. and Mrs. Richmond have taken into their home an eight-year-old girl, Zinita Kate Hancock, whose mother died recently and whom they are rearing with the same tender care as if she were of their own flesh and blood.

The Richmond brothers have mutual interests and their relations have always been agreeable and harmonious. They are excellent farmers and enterprising, wide-awake citizens, interested in whatever tends to the advancement of the community and the welfare of their fellow men. They enjoy to a marked degree the confidence of all with whom they are associated, their lives being above reproach and nothing savoring in the least of dishonor has ever attached to their characters or reputation.

MALCOLM L. ROWLAND.

A modern, progressive farmer and dairyman is M. L. Rowland, one of the best known citizens of Pleasant Valley township. He was born in Clermont township, this county, where his people were known as leaders in pioneer times in all the walks of life. His birth occurred November 11, 1858, and he is the son of Peter L. and Elvira (Wheeler) Rowland, the former a native of Ohio and the latter of Canada. His paternal grandfather was Peter Row-

land, born in Pennsylvania, his parents being of German origin. Peter Rowland married and reared a family in Ohio. Peter L. Rowland, father of M. L. Rowland, of this review, came to Iowa in the early forties when this country was sparsely settled. They were compelled to go to Dubuque, quite a distance, to market, and in those early times they had many trying experiences and underwent many hardships. Mr. Rowland carried flour on his back from Auburn, many miles through the woods to his primitive home. He was a hardy pioneer and made a success by his persistent labor. He first farmed on one hundred and sixty acres in Clermont township where he settled on account of the excellent timber and the fine springs. He worked at Auburn for some time burning charcoal, also farmed and engaged a great deal in hunting, the woods hereabout abounding in various wild and fur-bearing animals. He became prosperous, finally owning three hundred and fifty acres of valuable land. He carried on general farming and raised horses, mostly for draft purposes, the Norman breed especially. Some time before his death he retired from active farming.

The maternal grandparents of M. L. Rowland were Royal and Almina Wheeler. They, too, were early settlers in Fayette county, living many years on Turkey river, later moved to Union township, always engaged in farming.

Peter L. Rowland, father of the subject, reared a family of eight children, six sons and two daughters, five of the sons and one of the daughters now living, and all but one reside in Fayette county.

M. L. Rowland received his primary education in Clermont township, attending the district schools during the winter and working on the home farm in summer when he became of proper age. He has always followed farming with the exception of four years when he engaged in the creamery business on Turkey river, operating a private creamery and he made a success of the same; he was assisted by his father and brothers. M. L. and David Rowland owned a farm of one hundred and seventy-nine acres in partnership and they farmed together for nine years. In the spring of 1899, M. L. Rowland bought one hundred and eighty acres where he now resides and on which he carries on general farming and stock raising. He has a fine farm, well improved and tastily kept, a substantial and attractive home and numerous out-buildings.

Mr. Rowland was married in August, 1887, to Mary Archer, the daughter of an influential and highly honored old family here, and this union has resulted in the birth of the following children: Clarence Ray; Ethel Blanche died when three years of age; Elsie Gladys, Lorenzo Vern, George David and Clara Almina.

Mr. Rowland is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church and a liberal supporter of the same; politically, he is a Republican and, while he has taken considerable interest in local political matters, he has never been an office-seeker, being too busy with his business affairs, though he has served as school director. He is a plain, honest, pleasant man to know and he has maintained the excellent record of the elder Rowlands in this county.

JOSEPH L. BUTLER.

A man who is deserving of the credit and esteem which are accorded him by all who have been associated with him either socially or in a business way is Joseph L. Butler, of Oelwein, who was born in Fayette county, a mile north of Oelwein, in May, 1874. He is the son of Harrison and Mary (Meikle) Butler. The former was the son of Caleb Butler and was born in Wisconsin, from whence he came to Fayette county with his parents while he was only a child. The families of both parents settled in Oelwein in the early days when the county was just beginning to be settled and here they developed farms and established good homes. To Harrison and Mary (Meikle) Butler four children have been born: William, who married and is living in Missouri; Joseph L., of this review; Effie married J. R. McDuffee and she lived in Oelwein until her death, on June 16, 1909; Verna married Julius Heubner and lives one and one-half miles north of Oelwein. Harrison Butler died on July 21, 1909, and Mrs. Butler died on October 11, 1880.

Joseph L. Butler grew to maturity on the home farm in Fayette county, where he worked during the summer months and attended the public schools during the winter time. After leaving school he returned to farming, which he continued with success until 1899, when he moved into Oelwein, where he bought an interest in the firm of Smith & Wheeler, owners of the Oelwein Feed Mill. In 1903 Mr. Smith sold his interest to Mr. McDuffee, who, with Mr. Butler, conducted the mill about a year, when Mr. McDuffee retired from the business and Mr. Butler managed the mill alone until February 27, 1905, when Wallace A. Rundle became a partner and the firm still continues as Butler & Rundle, and is doing a very extensive business buying, selling and shipping hay, feed and grain, both wholesale and retail, and a lucrative and extensive patronage has been built up as the result of judicious management and honorable dealing.

In November, 1901, Mr. Butler was married to Elizabeth G. Rundle,

daughter of Richard and Celena (Green) Rundle. She is a native of Bremer county, Iowa. Her parents were born in England and both the Green and the Rundle families came to this country and settled in the state of Wisconsin, when Richard Rundle and Celena Green were children. Mr. and Mrs. Richard Rundle moved to Bremer county, Iowa, in pioneer times and lived there until 1902, when they moved to Oran township, Fayette county, where they still reside.

Nine children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Richard Rundle, two of whom died in infancy; those living are, William, who married and is living in Sumner, Iowa; Sarah married Frank Simpson and lives in Jennings, Kansas; Eliza married A. S. Peck and lives in Bremer county, Iowa, near the Fayette county line of Oran township; Robert is married and is living in Oran township, near the home of his parents; Elizabeth is the wife of J. L. Butler, of this review; Wallace is a partner of Joseph L. Butler in the grain business; Ella lives at home with her parents in Oran township.

To Mr. and Mrs. Joseph L. Butler two children have been born, Richard Lloyd and Lyle Harrison. Joseph L. Butler is a member of the Yeoman lodge and he and his family are well and favorably known here.

JAMES EARNSHAW.

Of sturdy and honorable English stock comes James Earnshaw, he himself being a native of "ye merrie isle," having first seen the light of day in Yorkshire, England, July 12, 1843, but the major portion of his eminently successful and useful career has been spent in the United States and he has not only benefited himself and family by his operations here, but also those with whom he has been associated, for he is a man who delights to see others prosper as well as himself. Being loyal to our institutions and of honorable character, he has been heartily welcomed wherever he has lived, and now in the evening of his years he is surrounded by the many comforts of life as a result of his past years of activity, and he also enjoys the friendship and good will of a host of acquaintances as a result of his honesty. He is the son of Nathaniel and Ann Earnshaw, the mother dying in 1850, and in 1855 the father and children came to America, landing at Croton, New York. They soon afterwards moved to Sullivan county, that state, but finally made their way to Kane county, Illinois, where they lived until the commencement of the Civil war, when, true to his

adopted country, James Earnshaw, of this review, bravely went forth in many a trying campaign and hard-fought engagement to save the dignity of the stars and stripes just as if he had been living under the protecting folds of the Union Jack, enlisting in 1862, in Company E, One Hundred and Twenty-seventh Illinois Volunteer Infantry, and was mustered into the Federal army on September 6, 1862, serving with distinction until August 22, 1865, when he was honorably discharged. He was in the Western army which participated in the siege of Vicksburg. After the close of the war he returned to Kane county, Illinois, and in 1865 married Lydia A. Fallows, daughter of Stephen and Sabra (Stevens) Fallows, an old and well established family of that place.

Addie May Earnshaw is a member of the subject's family, having been taken to raise when she was fourteen months old. She was married to Walter Smith and they live on Sixth street, West, in Oelwein, Iowa, near the home of James Earnshaw. She and her husband have five children, Hattie, Trueman, Esto, Earl and George.

One child, Blanche, was born to Mr. and Mrs. James Earnshaw. She married Jesse Watkins, living in Oran township on a farm, and they are the parents of two children, Jay and Effie.

About two years after their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Earnshaw moved to McHenry county, Illinois, where they lived until 1871, when they moved to Oran township, Fayette county, Iowa, where they bought a farm which they developed and on which they lived very comfortably until 1901, when they moved to Oelwein into a cozy and substantial home they had bought the year previous, at No. 43 Sixth street, North. Mr. Earnshaw sold his farm at that time and has since lived practically retired, surrounded by the evidences of his former years of activity and good management. He is a member of the Grand Army of the Republic, and he is known to be honest in all the relations of life, kind-hearted, genial, fond of a good joke, companionable and therefore has hosts of friends.

WILLIAM B. HITCH.

One of the representative citizens of Fayette county who has gained a competency and at the same time the respect of his fellow men because he has worked for them along legitimate lines, is William B. Hitch, a native of Union township, where he was born September 22, 1858. He is the son of Isaac and

Malindy (Stanboy) Hitch, the former born in Delaware and the latter in the state of Virginia, each of worthy old families. It was in the early forties that Isaac Hitch came to Iowa and located in Fayette county, on what is now known as the Frisby farm, having taken up a quarter section of wild land on which he erected a log cabin, cleared a small patch and set to work developing the farm, having a very valuable place in due time. He later bought a farm in section 35 in Union township, then bought a farm of eighty acres in Illyria township and remained there until about 1866, when he moved to Chickasaw county, where he lived for several years. His health failing, in 1875 he went west with his family and settled in the San Joaquin valley, California, and engaged in wheat raising until his death in 1877.

After the death of the father, William B. Hitch returned to Fayette county and worked as a farm hand for several years. Two of his brothers, John and Lorenzo, were soldiers in the Federal army, having enlisted in Company A, Thirty-eighth Iowa Volunteer Infantry. Lorenzo served until his discharge on the account of disability. John served out his full enlistment.

In 1888 Mr. Hitch purchased eighty acres of land in Union township. Prospering, he added to his original purchase until he became the owner of a fine farm of one hundred and ninety-five acres, which he placed under a high state of improvement and which he has made yield a very profitable income. He has also been very successful as a raiser of cattle and standard-bred horses. Among the many valuable horses bred and raised by Mr. Hitch was "Feric D.," the fastest pacing filly in Fayette county.

Mr. Hitch was married September 28, 1882, to Lucy Jane Patterson, daughter of Joseph Patterson, a well known citizen of Fayette county, where Mrs. Hitch was reared and educated. This union has resulted in the birth of two children, Lorenzo, living at home, educated in the schools of his native county and graduated from the New Hampton Normal and Commercial College, also attended the Upper Iowa University. He has taught school since he was eighteen years of age, with the exception of the past two years when he has been employed as salesman; Ruth B. is living at home.

William B. Hitch is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America, also the Yeoman lodge. Politically, he is a Democrat.

The paternal grandparents of William B. Hitch were Isaac and Goodie or Patsy (Lynch) Hitch, who spent their entire lives in Delaware. The maternal grandparents were John and Margaret Stobaugh, of German descent, the grandfather dying in the East, after which event his widow remarried and came to Iowa in the early forties, locating in Fayette county, having made the trip here with the father of William B. Hitch, and she remained here until

a short time before her death, when she moved to Washington county, this state. A brother of William B. Hitch's mother had the distinction of serving as a soldier in the war of 1812.

EDGAR F. OSTRANDER.

The subject of this sketch was born in Jefferson county, Wisconsin, January 9, 1856, being a son of Leander L. and Mary Ostrander, both natives of New York. Hiram and Sarah (Beebe) Graves, the subject's grandparents, were born in the latter state also, but in an early day migrated to Illinois, thence to Wisconsin, where they lived until their removal to Fayette county, Iowa, in the year 1865. Purchasing one hundred and twenty acres of land in what is now Bethel township, Mr. Graves, the grandfather, improved the same and in due time became one of its leading farmers and representative citizens of his part of the county; after the death of his wife he returned to Wisconsin, where he ended his days. Leander L. Ostrander, the father of Edgar, whose birth occurred in Tompkins county, New York, September 19, 1827, accompanied his parents to Illinois when six years old and grew to maturity on a farm in Cook county, a part of the place now included in the city of Chicago. He married in the latter state, in 1852, Mary Graves and the following year removed to Jefferson county, Wisconsin, where he worked for a while for his father, later purchasing land of his own and achieving considerable success as a tiller of the soil. After making several changes in the above county, he disposed of his interests in Wisconsin and in 1860 came to Fayette county, Iowa, making the trip by wagon and bringing with him quite a number of cattle and a large flock of sheep, by means of which he was enabled to make a substantial beginning in what was then a comparatively new and undeveloped country. He too bought land in the township of Bethel and it was not long until he forged to the front among the enterprising farmers and representative men of his part of the county.

Leander and Mary Ostrander had children as follows: Maria, Frank E., Edgar F. and Adelaide, Frank and the subject being twins.

The early life of Edgar F. Ostrander was spent in Wisconsin and on the home farm in Bethel township, and his educational training embraced a knowledge of the branches taught in the public schools. He was reared to agricultural pursuits and on arriving at the age of young manhood selected farming for his vocation, which he has since followed with most gratifying

results. At first he cultivated a part of the family homestead as a renter, but after a few years purchased one hundred and twenty acres of land in Bethel township, which he at once proceeded to improve and to which he subsequently added eighty acres, the meanwhile bringing the place to a high state of cultivation and making it one of the most productive and valuable farms in the locality. In 1906 he sold one hundred acres and invested the proceeds in an eighty-acre tract two miles west of West Union, also purchased a fine residence property in that town where he has since made his home.

Mr. Ostrander's career as an agriculturist has been successful from the beginning and as a breeder and raiser of fine live stock he has achieved a reputation much more than local. His horses, especially those for farm and draft purposes, are of the Percheron and Norman breeds and have always commanded high prices, while his Shorthorn cattle, Poland China hogs and Cotswold sheep are also in much demand and among the best in this part of the state. Although primarily interested in farming and stock raising, he also keeps in touch with the affairs of his township and county, being at this time a stockholder in the Alpha Telephone, of which he was for six years treasurer and secretary, and the Alpha Farmers Creamery Company, having served the last named enterprise six years as director. In politics he votes the Republican ticket and takes an active part in the welfare of his party. He served six years as trustee of Bethel township, was president of the school board three years and for a period of nine years held the important office of assessor, in all of which capacities he demonstrated fine business abilities and was untiring in his efforts to promote the welfare of the public. Religiously, Mr. Ostrander holds to the Methodist Episcopal creed and to him as much as to any one man is due the credit of establishing the church of that denomination at Alpha and erecting the present house of worship. He has been trustee of the society since its organization, is a liberal supporter of the same and manifests a lively interest not only in religious work but in all enterprises having for their object the material, social and moral good of his fellow-men. Fraternally, he belongs to the Modern Woodmen of America and the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, being an active and influential worker in both organizations, and with his wife holds membership with the Rebekah lodge connected with the latter.

Mr. Ostrander was happily married in 1876 to Margaret Jennie Rogers, daughter of James and Nancy (Chamberlin) Rogers, who came to Iowa in 1858 from Albany, Vermont, and settled originally at Fort Atkinson. Mr. Rogers and family experienced the vicissitudes which usually fall to the lot of early settlers in a new country and during the first few years in this state

endured many hardships and privations and not a little suffering. Mr. Rogers was a farmer and miller in the East, but by reason of failing health followed no regular vocation after moving to Iowa. He died in the year 1864. His family consisted of the following children: Rosamond R., Luther, Reuben, Abilena, Joseph, Charles, Mary, Almira, Sarah, Nancy, Newell, Augusta, James, Ephraim, Margaret, Jennie. At the beginning of the Rebellion, Luther, Reuben, Joseph and Newell enlisted and served with honorable records in defense of their country, Newell dying at St. Louis before the struggle ended, the others returning home at the close of the war. A little later the mother and children bought a small farm in Bethel township, Fayette county, to which the family removed. Mrs. Rogers afterwards went to California, where she spent the remainder of her life with her oldest daughter.

Mr. and Mrs. Ostrander have had four children: Clyde Elverton, a farmer of Westfield township, Fayette county; Clinton R., a farmer at Groton, South Dakota; Elton, who died in infancy, and Harold, who is still at home.

KNUDT KETTLESON.

Scandinavians and their descendants have played an important and appreciated part in the development of the resources of Fayette county, Iowa, and today they are numbered among the leading and representative citizens of this prosperous community, one of the best all-around counties in the commonwealth of Missouri. Among those in whose veins flows Scandinavian blood is the gentleman whose name appears at the head of this sketch, who is a leading farmer of Clermont township and who, by persistent industry, good management and correct principles, has attained a definite and gratifying measure of success.

Mr. Kettleison is a native son of Fayette county, having been born on March 16, 1855, and is a son of Hans and Helen Kettleison, both of whom were natives of Norway. These parents came to Fayette county in about 1852 and bought land, to the improvement and cultivation of which they devoted their energies, this being the farm now owned by the subject of this sketch. Hans Kettleison died in 1862 and is survived by his widow, who is now ninety years old. They reared a family of eight children, of which number seven, six daughters and a son, are now living. Politically, Hans Kettleison gave his support to the Republican party, while his religious belief was that of the Lutheran church, of which he was an active and faithful member,

having been influential in advancing the interests of that denomination in this community. He was a man of sterling character and enjoyed universal respect in the community.

Knudt Kettleson, who was reared on the parental farmstead, is indebted to the common schools for his mental discipline and to the strenuous labor of his early years on the farm for a good constitution which has enabled him to perform much hard labor during the subsequent years. He has devoted his entire life to agricultural pursuits and in this line has achieved a gratifying success, being known throughout the township as a progressive and up-to-date farmer. He is the owner of two hundred acres of as good land as can be found in the township, and the place is maintained in such a condition as to please the eye of the visitor and reflect great credit on the owner. Mr. Kettleson is thoroughly wide-awake to the possibilities of the farm and keeps in touch with advanced ideas relating to the science of husbandry, not hesitating to adopt new methods when their practicability has been demonstrated by experience. He raises some livestock, as a side line, and has found this work profitable.

On November 23, 1882, Mr. Kettleson married Christina Ostle, a native of Clayton county, Iowa, and a daughter of Lars Ostle, who was an early settler of Fayette county. To Mr. and Mrs. Kettleson have been born five children, namely: Henry, Clara (deceased), Clara, Irene and Clifford. Mr. Kettleson is a staunch supporter of the Republican party in political affairs and takes a keen and intelligent interest in the trend of current events. In religion he and his family are affiliated with the Lutheran church, of which they are consistent members and earnest supporters. The members of this family move in the best social circles of the community and their home is the scene of many pleasant and enjoyable gatherings, their friends appreciating the spirit of good cheer and hospitality which is ever in evidence there. Mr. Kettleson is a man of splendid personal qualifications and enjoys not only a wide acquaintance, but many warm personal friendships.

JOHN J. FENNELL.

A man who has long been extensively identified with the livestock and agricultural interests of Fayette county is J. J. Fennell, who was born in Illyria township, this county, January 13, 1861, the son of William and Ellen (Dwyer) Fennell, natives of Ireland, where the father received his

education and remained until 1856, when, having heard of the vaster opportunities that awaited the conscientious workers in America, he set sail for this country, and, penetrating to the interior, located near Wadena, Fayette county, Iowa, where, for some time, he worked at various things until he could get a foothold. He married here and, having saved his money, was able to buy a farm of one hundred and sixty acres, also another farm of one hundred and thirty-three acres and thirteen acres of woods. He developed this land and became very well fixed, having started with practically nothing and with no one to aid, but he rose rapidly nevertheless, gradually increasing his holdings. Later in life he became an extensive breeder of Chester White hogs, owning about the first of this breed in this community. Politically, he was a Democrat and was active in the affairs of his party. He was a man of much influence, and was always truthful, reliable and careful of his attitude toward his fellow men. He belonged to the Catholic church. He and his wife were the parents of six children, five of whom were living at the time of his death. They were, John J., Catherine C., Ellen (died when four years of age), Minnie, who is a teacher, and in Chicago, where she has made a great success as an educator; William V. is a farmer on the old Fennell homestead; Anna married Frank Hartell, a ranch foreman.

John J. Fennell, of this review, was educated in the public schools of Wadena and Pleasant Valley, this county, and after leaving school he farmed for one year in Pleasant Valley township on one of his father's places; then he went West and after one year of varied experience there, returned to Fayette county and rented the home place north of Wadena and also a place near the old home; then he rented a place in Illyria township.

Mr. Fennell was married in November, 1887, to Mary E. O'Harren, the daughter of a highly respected family here, and this union has resulted in the birth of the following children: Maggie Geneva, Demarion Daniel, Marcella Mildred, Maria Winifred, Johnnie James, Evangelin Kathryn.

After his marriage Mr. Fennell farmed and began dealing in livestock, especially calves, later adding various grades of cattle. After farming four or five years, he purchased a part of the place and later the entire farm; then added forty acres, which then made him one hundred and seventy-three acres in all, located in Pleasant Valley, where he lived until 1907, when he came to West Union, having devoted the previous ten years very largely to cattle buying, coming to West Union in September, 1907. On January 1, 1908, he became a partner of his cousin, E. C. Fennell, of Wadena, and from 1902 to about 1905 he was a partner with R. W. Helms. Aside from these partnerships, Mr. Fennell was an individual buyer of all kinds of stock. Being an

excellent judge of all grades and varieties of livestock, he has been unusually successful and is known as one of the leading stockmen of Fayette county. He and his wife are members of the Catholic church. He is liberal in his political views, preferring to vote for the man instead of the party. He has been too busy to take much interest in political affairs, but he served very ably as trustee of Pleasant Valley township for two or three years. He is well known throughout the county and, having always been a good mixer, a jolly, kindly disposed man, is popular with all who know him.

H. E. FOSTER.

It is a pleasure to investigate the career of a successful, self-made man. Peculiar honor attaches to that individual who, beginning the great struggle of life alone and unaided, gradually overcomes all obstacles in the pathway of success and by his own force and vitality succeeds in forging his way to the front and winning for himself a position of esteem and influence among his fellow men. Such is the record of the popular citizen of Clermont, Fayette county, to a brief synopsis of whose life and character the following paragraphs are devoted.

H. E. Foster is a native son of the old Hoosier state, having first seen the light of day in Laporte county, Indiana, on January 21, 1841. In 1849 he came with his parents to West Union, Fayette county, Iowa, arriving here on the Fourth of July. At that time the country was sparsely settled and at what is now the thriving city of West Union there then was but one log house. The subject remained during his boyhood with his parents and received his education in the district schools, which at that time were rather primitive in both methods and equipment. His patriotism was aroused at the outbreak of the war of the Rebellion and in September, 1862, he enlisted in Company C, Sixth Regiment Iowa Volunteer Cavalry, with which command he served until the close of the war. He proved a loyal and courageous soldier and, inspired by an ardent love for his country, he threw his whole heart and soul into the conflict.

Upon his discharge from the military service, Mr. Foster returned to West Union and apprenticed himself to E. L. Sherman to learn the trade of a harnessmaker, and he spent the following eleven years in the same shop. He then bought forty-seven acres of choice land northeast of West Union in Dover township, and he made his home there until August, 1904, when

he moved to Clermont and engaged in cement contracting. Sound business principles, correct motives and persistent industry have been contributing elements to the success which has crowned Mr. Foster's efforts and today he is numbered among the representative citizens and enterprising business men of his community.

Politically a Republican, Mr. Foster has been active in advancing the interests of his party and during the past eight years he has served as assessor of Dover township. His religious membership is with the Methodist Episcopal church, of which he is a liberal supporter.

On May 13, 1880, Mr. Foster was married to Ellen Learn, who was born in Luzerne county, Pennsylvania, the daughter of Abram and Martha (Havenstrite) Learn, both also natives of the Keystone state. These parents came to Dover township, Fayette county, on April 8, 1869, and there followed farming. To Mr. and Mrs. Foster has been born one daughter, Laura, who is still a member of the home circle.

The parents of the subject of this sketch were Joseph W. and Aurilla (Griffith) Foster, the former a native of Rutland county, Vermont, and the latter of New York state. They moved to Butler county, Ohio, where the father followed his trades of miller and millwright. They moved to Laporte county, Indiana, in 1834, where Mr. Foster continued in the same line of work until 1843, when they removed to Rock county, Wisconsin, which was their home for five years. In March, 1848, they came to Fayette county, Iowa, locating four and a half miles northwest of West Union, two years later settling where West Union now stands. Mr. Foster was an expert in his line of work and he built two mills, a saw-mill and a grist-mill, at Eldorado for Mr. Elrod, and also assisted in the erection of a grist-mill at Auburn.

Before closing this sketch, mention should be made of a brother of the subject, David P. Foster, one of the honored and respected old residents of Fayette county. Mr. Foster was born in Butler county, Ohio, on January 1, 1833, the son of Joseph W. and Aurilla (Griffith) Foster. He came to Fayette county, Iowa, with his parents in 1848 and has ever since been closely identified with this section of the county, having been an eye-witness of and participant in the wonderful development which has characterized this part of the state. To him fell the honor and also the responsibility of first carrying the mail in Fayette county. This was during the administration of President Pierce and the mail route was from West Union to McGregor. During the subsequent years Mr. Foster has been employed at various occupations, including those of cabinetmaker, painter, carpenter

and other kindred lines. He relates that at one time in the early days he harvested grain on the spot where now stands the busy city of West Union. In 1861 Mr. Foster enlisted in Company F, Third Regiment Iowa Volunteer Infantry, and served faithfully until receiving his honorable discharge in 1863. In October, 1862, he was wounded at Ahatchie, and was also injured at the battle of Shiloh. He is now an appreciative member of the Grand Army of the Republic. Politically, he is a stanch Republican. On January 1, 1859, he was married to Mary Lang, and to them have been born four children, namely: Carrie (died in infancy), Clara, Jennie and Blanche. Religiously, Mr. and Mrs. Foster are affiliated with the Presbyterian church.

KARL D. FISK.

A skilled optometrist, whose name has become a household word in northeastern Iowa and who is deserving of the confidence and esteem in which he is held by all with whom he has come in contact, is Karl D. Fisk, who was born in Mendota, LaSalle county, Illinois, November 3, 1869, the son of Andrew Jackson and Mary (Hill) Fisk, both natives of Connecticut. His paternal grandfather, William A. Fisk, was of fine old Pilgrim stock who built the first silk factory in America, it being located at Mansfield, Connecticut. William A. Fisk later came west and opened a bank, also managed a general store and conducted a lumber business in Malden, Bureau county, Illinois. He became quite well to do for those early days, having come there in the early thirties, and remained until his death. Karl Fisk's maternal grandfather, John W. Hill, came to LaSalle county, Illinois, where he engaged in farming. He also came west in the early thirties, became wealthy and spent his last days on the place which he homesteaded.

Andrew Jackson Fisk, father of Karl D. Fisk, was educated first in the common schools, came west with his father and completed his education in Bureau county, Illinois. He followed painting and contracting in his early life, later farmed on a general plan and was successful and influential in his neighborhood. In 1903 he located in Guthrie county, Iowa, but in 1905 he moved to West Union where he lived, retired, until his death in 1908. He was a man who won the respect of all who knew him by his upright life. His widow is still living in West Union. Thirteen children were born to them, nine of whom are still living, Karl D. Fisk, of this review, being the eighth in order of birth.

Karl D. Fisk was educated in the high school of Mendota, Illinois, and at the Ophthalmic College in Chicago, where he made a splendid record and from which institution he was graduated in 1890, after which he took up the practice of his profession in Illinois, remaining for a time at several different places, having his headquarters at Mendota, LaSalle county. In 1892 he came to Iowa and located in West Union, and from this city as his head office he makes several cities in northeastern Iowa, in all of which he has an excellent patronage, for he is thoroughly versed in his profession, keeps advised on all up-to-date matters pertaining to the same and he is a man of pleasing address, courteous, genial and he has the happy faculty of making friends of his patients. He is also vice-president of the Iowa Optical Company, located at Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

Karl D. Fisk was married October 12, 1892, to Lorena E. Farr, daughter of Levi L. Farr, a prominent citizen of West Union. This union has resulted in the birth of three children, Dorothy, Helen and Marjorie.

Karl D. Fisk is a thirty-second-degree Mason, belonging to both the Scottish rite and the York rite. He is past eminent commander of Langridge Commandery No. 47, Knights Templar. He formerly belonged to the Knights of Pythias. He is a member of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks and the Modern Brotherhood of America.

Since 1897 Karl D. Fisk has been a member of the American Association of Opticians, and he became a member of the Iowa Association of Optometrists in 1903, the organization having been started in 1898 and incorporated in 1908. In 1908 he was made president of the Iowa Association of Optometrists, and he did many things for the benefit of the organization, the most notable being the securing of a law, passed by the Legislature, that governs the practice of optometry. He is influential in all these organizations and is one of the best known optometrists in the state.

MILO McGLATHERY.

Few men of Fayette county were as widely and favorably known as the late Milo McGlathery, the honored pioneer and eminent jurist. He was one of the strong and influential citizens whose lives have become an essential part of the history of this section of the state and for years his name was synonymous for all that constituted honorable and upright manhood. Tireless energy, keen perception and honesty of purpose, combined with a

large fund of every-day common sense and deep learning in his profession, were among his chief characteristics, and the annals of Fayette county would be incomplete without a record of his career.

Milo McGlathery was born in Lawrence county, Pennsylvania, November 20, 1834, and was the son of John P. McGlathery, who also was a native of the old Keystone state and whose ancestors rendered valiant service to their country during the Revolutionary war. John P. McGlathery was a large contractor and among the important public works constructed by him was the Erie Canal. His last days were spent in Topeka, Kansas. His wife, who also was born in Pennsylvania, bore the maiden name of Amanda Kirckpatrick, and she also came from sterling Revolutionary stock.

Milo McGlathery was reared and educated in his native locality, and early in boyhood he became impressed with the idea of adopting the law as his life profession. To this end, he studied law in the office of Judge L. L. McGuffin, in New Castle, Pennsylvania, for two years, during which time he laid the foundation for future studies in the Ohio State and Union Law School, where he was graduated in 1856, being admitted to the bar in June of the same year.

In September, 1856, Mr. McGlathery came to Iowa and was one of the pioneers of West Union, Fayette county, and early formed a professional partnership with Hon. S. B. Zeigler, now deceased. In the fall of 1857 he was elected prosecuting attorney for Fayette county, and here began an uninterrupted political career which ended only with his death. In the autumn of 1858 Mr. McGlathery was elected prosecuting attorney for the tenth judicial district, which then embraced ten counties, and in 1862 he was re-elected for another term of four years. In 1866 Mr. McGlathery was nominated for district judge and was elected without opposition. Again in 1870, and on petition of the lawyers of the district, he was urged by the central committees of both parties to become a candidate for re-election, the voters of both parties being requested by their respective committees to support Judge McGlathery. Of course he was unanimously re-elected, and thus served out a period of eighteen years in the important offices of prosecuting attorney and district judge. The Judge was an ardent Republican, and one of the organizers of that party, but he was never a partisan in the administration of his official duties, hence his popularity among all classes. His qualifications for the office of judge were unquestionable. First of all, he had integrity of character. He possessed the natural ability and essential requirements, the acumen of the judicial temperament. He was able

to divest himself of prejudice or favoritism and consider only the legal aspects of a question submitted. No labor was too great, however onerous; no application too exacting, however severe, if necessary to the complete understanding and correct determination of a question. Many of his decisions bear the impress of his patient investigation and his logical deductions, and his career on the bench was a noble example and an inspiration.

On December 7, 1859, occurred the marriage of Milo McGlathery and Anna M. McMasters, the ceremony occurring at West Union, where their home was continued. Mrs. McGlathery was the daughter of James and Eliza (Lipton) McMasters, natives of Pennsylvania, but who came to Iowa in 1857, locating at West Union. In the East Mr. McMasters had been engaged in a number of business enterprises, having owned a coal mine, a hotel and farming property. On coming to Iowa he bought a farm, to which he devoted his attention during the remainder of his life. He was a man of sterling character and in his make-up were displayed the same qualities which had impelled his ancestors who were defenders of the colonies during the war of the Revolution. To Milo and Anna McGlathery were born two children, Edward S., born October 10, 1860, and a daughter, Addie.

Edward S. McGlathery is a prosperous farmer and breeder of thoroughbred trotting horses on his farm, adjoining the corporation of West Union on the south. He has made a specialty of this line of stock raising and gives his entire attention and the use of his fine farm of one hundred and sixty acres to the rearing and training of standard-bred trotting horses. He established in this business in 1890 and was one of the first men in Fayette county who decided that trotting horses could be profitably reared in Iowa as well as in Kentucky. When the initial stock was secured neither time nor money was spared to secure the best that could be bought after thorough investigation. The original stock was from the well known farms of Senator Stanford, of California, and the Woodborn farms of Kentucky. The result has been in every way satisfactory. Mr. McGlathery was reared and educated in his native town of West Union, and, though he has traveled extensively, his home has always been here. Everyone knows "Ed" McGlathery and no one knows him but to respect and honor him for his quiet and unassuming manner and strict adherence to honest and upright dealings. The writer has known him since he was a school boy in knee breeches, wrestling with the intricate problems propounded by the late Prof. S. S. Ainsworth. The family is nearly extinct through the death of both father and mother, but the survivors maintain the high standing attained and transmitted by their ancestors.

In 1899 Edward McGlathery was married to Anna E. Moore, a daughter of John Moore, a native of Dubuque, whose parents were pioneer settlers of that place.

GEORGE G. SCOTT.

The gentleman to a brief review of whose life the following paragraphs are devoted, has long been numbered among the foremost citizens of Wadena, Illyria township, Fayette county, and has by his enterprise and progressive methods contributed in a material way to the advancement of the locality in which he has resided. He has in the course of an honorable career been most successful in the business affairs with which he has been connected, and is well deserving of mention in the biographical annals of Fayette county.

George G. Scott is a native son of bonnie Scotland, where his birth occurred on May 24, 1842. His parents were George and Maney (Gray) Scott, the former born at Perth, Perthshire, Scotland, on April 7, 1795, and the latter at Easter Duddingston, Scotland, on November 9, 1799. The subject's birthplace was also Perth and there his boyhood days were spent, his elementary education being received in the schools of that city. In 1863 Mr. Scott left the land of hills and heather and cast his lot with thousands of his countrymen who had established homes in the United States, and he located at Dubuque, Iowa, where two elder brothers had long preceded him. In 1877 he came to Wadena, Fayette county, Iowa, where he engaged in the mercantile business. The Scotch national characteristics of shrewdness, sobriety and honesty were contributing elements to the success which attended his efforts and for a number of years he was numbered among the leading merchants of this section of the county, so that in 1899 he was enabled to retire from active business life and is now enjoying that leisure and rest which his former years of activity so richly entitle him to. He has always been deeply interested in the welfare and development of the community with which his interests have been identified and he has been an influential factor in its advancement, having long enjoyed the respect and esteem of the entire community.

Though foreign-born, Mr. Scott early gave unmistakable evidence of his loyalty to his adopted country and in the dark hours of the great Rebellion he assisted in the defense of the national government. In June, 1864, he enlisted in Company A, Forty-fourth Regiment Iowa Volunteer Infantry, and faithfully served in the ranks until September following, when he was honorably discharged.

Politically, Mr. Scott has been affiliated with the Republican party, in the success of which he has been actively interested. He gave efficient and satisfactory service as postmaster of Wadena, in which position he served through several Republican administrations, earning the commendation of his superiors in the department and the good will of the patrons of the office. Religiously, Mr. Scott is a member of the Congregational church, to which he gives a generous support of his time and means. Standing "four square to every wind that blows," Mr. Scott has always been found on the right side of every moral issue or other question looking to the betterment of the general conditions of the community and because of his estimable personal qualities and genuine worth he is deservedly popular among those with whom he is acquainted.

WILLIAM EZRA HOWARD.

From a sterling old family of the Keystone state, and he himself a man of many estimable qualities, as his long and useful life in Fayette county will attest, comes William Ezra Howard, one of the comfortably situated farmers of Pleasant Valley township. His birth occurred on October 13, 1849, in Mercer county, Pennsylvania, and he is the son of John and Mary (Alcorn) Howard, both natives of Pennsylvania, in which state they grew to maturity and where they were married in 1840, and farmed there until 1853, when John came to Pleasant Valley township, Fayette county, Iowa, being among the pioneers of this locality. He selected a site for their future home in section 33, built a log cabin and stable and made preparations for his family, whom he had left behind. In 1854 he returned to the East for his family and they soon were engaged in developing their new home in the West. His first land cost him one dollar and twenty-five cents per acre; adding to his first tract, he became the owner of a very valuable place of two hundred and twenty-three acres. He was a hard working man and cleared a great deal, and he became well known among the first settlers here, and was highly respected by all who knew him; he devoted his entire life to farming and was rewarded with success. His death occurred on November 17, 1900, and that of his good wife on October 2, 1908; they were a fine old couple and reached advanced ages. John Howard was one of the most noted hunters in the state of Iowa in his earlier years. He also frequently went on hunting expeditions in Minnesota. He was a stanch Republican, and his wife was a member of the Methodist Episcopal church.

To Mr. and Mrs. Howard the following children were born: Sarah Jane married C. A. Lyon and lives in Knox county, Nebraska; Harvey is deceased; William E., of this review; Lucinda is deceased; Thomas lives in Elgin, Iowa; Elizabeth married M. Stansbury and lives in Sioux City, Iowa; Enos and Inez are twins; the latter died in 1864; Enos married Mahala Connor, is farming on part of the old place in Pleasant Valley township and they have the following children: John and Clark, both deceased; Thomas, who married Anna Wilson and lives with his father on the old place, has one son, Archie E.; Inez, the fourth child of Enos Howard and wife, married John Shaffer, of Illyria township; Reuben, the fifth child, is living at home.

William E. Howard, of this review, received only a limited education in the home schools, and he remained on the parental acres until he was twenty-two years of age. In February, 1872, he went to Knox county, Nebraska, and purchased one hundred and sixty acres more. He improved it and lived on the same until 1888, when he sold out and bought a part of his father's old homestead in Pleasant Valley township, this county. He is now the owner of a very productive, attractive and well managed farm of one hundred and thirty-three acres, he having made all the improvements on same.

While living in Knox county, Nebraska, Mr. Howard was married on April 15, 1877, to Emily M. Burgess, of Winneshiek county, Iowa. She is the daughter of William and Jane (Poole) Burgess, her father being a native of Ireland and her mother of Virginia. They came in an early day to Iowa, later lived for some time in Minnesota, thence moved to Knox county, Nebraska, and from there to Wyoming, where they died.

Seven children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. William Howard, named as follows: Mary J. married Frank Boyle, of Pleasant Valley township, and they have two children, William E. and George H.; Lucinda married George Stansberry, of Illyria township, and they have six children, Grace P., Iva, George, Evelyn, Ezra, Emily E.; John married Elsie Smith and they live in Illyria township and are the parents of two children, John and Ezra C.; William T., of Pleasant Valley township, married Jenette Peterson and they have one son, Charlie; Harvey, a farmer in Illyria township, married Eunice Miller, and they have one child, Leota Malvina; George Enos married Anna May Learn and lives with his father; Frank is also living at home.

Since 1888 William E. Howard has lived on his present place in Pleasant Valley township, carrying on a general farming business in a very successful manner. He is well known as a breeder of Shorthorn cattle, draft horses and Poland-China hogs, all of which find a ready market, owing to

their superior quality. Farming has been his life work and he has been amply rewarded.

Politically, he is a Republican, and has held several local offices, including that of school director.

GEORGE W. GILBERT.

Among the honored old pioneers of Fayette county, Iowa, the subject of this sketch occupies a conspicuous position. A life of good purposes and unimpeached integrity has won for him the unbounded confidence of all who know him and he is eminently entitled to representation in a work of this nature. Mr. Gilbert is a native of western Canada, where he was born on the 28th day of February, 1841, and is the son of William and Rebecca (Pratt) Gilbert. He is of stanch Irish stock, his grandfather Gilbert having come to America from the north of Ireland. On the maternal side his ancestors were English, his maternal great-grandfather having been born in that country, as was his son, who was a soldier in the war of the Revolution, later locating in Canada, where his daughter, the subject's mother, was born. The old Revolutionary veteran referred to was the father of twenty-three children and lived to the remarkable age of ninety-three years. He was three times married and the subject's mother was born to the first wife. The grandparents were all tillers of the soil and were energetic and enterprising people, standing high in their respective communities.

William Gilbert was born in New York city, February 18, 1810, and his wife, Rebecca, first saw the light of day in Canada on February 11, 1821. The former died in 1889, at the age of seventy-nine years, and the latter in 1862, at the age of forty-one years. William Gilbert lived in his native city until he had reached his majority, when he went to Canada, where he married about 1838. The family moved to Rockford, Illinois, about 1847, where they resided until about 1864, when they came to Fayette county, Iowa, and located at Eldorado. In the winter of the following year they moved to Charles City, this state, where they lived eight years. At the end of that time they went to northern Minnesota and took up a claim adjoining the Chippewa Indian reservation. When about seventy-five years old, William Gilbert went to live with his daughter, Mrs. Lois Davis, at Saginaw, Michigan, where his death occurred, his remains being taken to Rockford, Illinois, for interment. After the death of his first wife, he was again married, while residing at Rockford, and by the second union he had two sons, four children

having been born to the first union, namely: The first-born died in infancy; George W., the subject of this sketch; Rebecca, who lives at Lansing, Michigan; and Lois, now deceased. The children of the second union were Theodore, a resident of Badora, Minnesota, and Henry, who lives at Detroit City, Minnesota. Their mother is now living in California. William Gilbert was an idustrious and energetic man. He was by trade a carpenter, joiner and millwright. In political sentiment he was an abolitionist and took an active part in politics after the war. He was widely known and in whatever company he happened to be was perfectly at home, being himself somewhat of an entertainer. Through his energetic habits and wise management, he was always in fair pecuniary circumstances. In church work he was active, being prominent in the Baptist society, and he was ever found in support of movements for the benefit of the community.

George W. Gilbert was reared in the paternal home and in his youth attended the public schools of Rockford, Illinois. His studies were interrupted, however, by the sounds of impending conflict, which was then about to burst over the nation, and when the President's call for volunteers was issued, he responded promptly, enlisting at Rockford, at the age of nineteen years, in Company D, Eleventh Regiment Illinois Volunteer Infantry. The command first went into camp at Bird's Point, Missouri, where they remained during the winter of 1861-62. Subsequently the regiment took part in the battles of Fort Henry and Fort Donelson, followed by Shiloh, these being the most important battles in the history of the regiment. During the battle of Shiloh, the subject was detailed to the boat "City of Memphis" to help care for the wounded, and during the thickest of the fight he helped carry many dead and wounded soldiers from the field. General Grant designated him as a nurse on the boat mentioned, which position he retained for four or five weeks, then becoming the steward of the boat. He had charge of about fifty nurses and the boat was kept busily engaged transferring sick soldiers from the South, usually carrying six hundred and seven hundred sick and wounded men at each trip. After this he was detailed as a cook in the Cairo hospital, but soon afterwards was himself taken sick with smallpox and confined in the same hospital. On his recovery he was made chief cook, which he retained for some time. He then rejoined his regiment and was discharged from the service because of physical disability. When he entered the service, Mr. Gilbert was a strong and robust man, but when he left the army he weighed but ninety-five pounds.

After the completion of his military service, Mr. Gilbert returned to his former home at Rockford, where he remained about a year and then came to

Fayette county, Iowa, in June, 1865, locating in Auburn township. During the following ten years he was successfully engaged there in the tilling of the soil, but in 1876 he came to West Union, where he has since lived. Being an expert mechanic, he was for a number of years kept busily employed, by of recent years he has been practically living retired from active labor. He is a man of splendid personal qualities and is well liked in the circles in which he moves.

On February 25, 1866, Mr. Gilbert was married to Elizabeth Dewey, a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Richard Dewey, her birth having occurred November 2, 1844, near New Richmond, Montgomery county, Indiana. The Dewey family was originally from Maryland, going from that state first to Ohio, and thence going to Indiana. They were farming people and occupied a prominent position in their community. Of their eight children, Mrs. Gilbert was the fourth in order of birth, she being a twin to a brother who is now deceased. The Dewey family arrived in Fayette county in 1856, coming from Indiana with four yoke of oxen and two horse teams, locating near Eldorado. To Mr. and Mrs. Gilbert have been born two children, namely: Maud, born August 28, 1871, became the wife of Earl Ostrander, of this county, and they have a boy, Jesse, now two years old; Olive, born May 19, 1877, is the wife of Carl Ostrander, and they have one child, Edith Elizabeth, three years old; Carl and Earl Ostrander are twins.

Mr. Gilbert is a stanch Republican in his political faith, and has held several township offices, being at present a justice of the peace, in which he is giving eminently satisfactory service. He has long taken an active interest in agricultural matters, being a member of the Fayette County Fair Association. On the fair grounds is a typical log cabin, in which are kept many valuable and interesting relics of the early pioneer days and which is always the center of interest for visitors. This cabin Mr. Gilbert himself built and presented to the Old Settlers Association for the specific purpose to which it is devoted, and he was appointed the superintendent of the building, a position he still retains. Mr. Gilbert is the possessor of a number of interesting old relics, one of them being an old map and railroad guide that was published in 1845, before the state of Iowa was admitted to the union. It is an interesting relic and by contrast emphasizes the wonderful development which has taken place in the state. Mr. Gilbert is also the owner of the celebrated cabin which was used during the first presidential campaign of Benjamin Harrison, having been made for the Harrison Club of West Union. Several attempts have been made to destroy or steal the cabin, it having been in all the towns of the county, but it is still intact and has been made use of a number of times by

the Modern Woodmen and others at different times. Fraternally, Mr. Gilbert is a member of Post No. 48, Grand Army of the Republic, at West Union, and was at one time commander of the Veterans' Association of Fayette county. Religiously he is a Baptist, holding membership with the church of that denomination at West Union. He and his wife are living quietly and unostentatiously in their comfortable home at West Union and they enjoy the friendship of a large circle of acquaintances. They give a cordial welcome to all who enter their home, the spirit of true hearted hospitality being ever in evidence.

PHILIP LAUER.

That the plenitude of satiety is seldom attained in the affairs of life is to be considered a most beneficial deprivation, for where ambition is satisfied and every ultimate end realized, if such be possible, apathy must follow. The men who have pushed forward the wheels of progress have been those to whom satisfaction lies ever in the future, who have labored continuously, always finding in each transition state an incentive for further effort. Mr. Lauer is one whose well directed efforts have gained for him a position of desirable prominence in his community and his energy and enterprise have been crowned by a gratifying measure of success, so that now he is enabled to enjoy a surcease from active labor and live in comfort and ease.

Philip Lauer was born in Germany in 1840 and is a son of Peter and Dora (Beal) Lauer, both of whom were natives and lifelong residents of the Fatherland. Philip was reared to the years of youth by his parents and attended the splendid schools of his native land. At the early age of fifteen years he came alone to the United States and first located in Lycoming county, Pennsylvania, where he learned and followed the trade of a carpenter. In 1860 he came to Iowa, locating in Winneshiek county, where he acquired a tract of two hundred and forty-seven acres, to the cultivation of which he devoted himself. He made many improvements and gave much attention to the raising of cattle and hogs. He remained there until 1898, when he bought two hundred and thirty-five acres of fine land lying north of Eldorado, Fayette county, to which he moved the following year, and this has been his home since. He has here followed a general line of farming and stock raising and his efforts were rewarded with marked success. He also owns another tract of twenty acres which he had bought before leaving Winneshiek county. He has looked carefully after the material welfare of his

children and has bought and given to his sons tracts of one hundred and sixty, and one hundred and thirty-eight and one hundred and three acres respectively. During the past few years he has practically retired from active labor.

In 1862 Mr. Lauer was united in marriage to Gosen Kaster, whose death occurred in January, 1910. They became the parents of twelve children, namely: Henry, Charles, Philip H., John P. (deceased October 16, 1910), William P., Peter, Fritz, Maggie, John and Elizabeth, the two last named also being deceased.

Politically, Mr. Lauer is a stanch Republican, and he has served six years as township trustee and two terms as school director, and while living in Winneshiek county he was trustee for nine years and school director for many years. He is a member of the Lutheran church at Eldorado, being the oldest member of the society and the first person married in it. He has taken a deep interest in the welfare of the community in which he lives and gives an unreserved support to every movement calculated to benefit his fellow man morally, educationally, socially or materially. He is a stockholder in the Farmers Insurance Company, of which he has been treasurer for the past twenty-seven years, much of the success of the company being due to his influence and efforts in its behalf, it being one of the solid and beneficial institutions of the county. Personally, Mr. Lauer is genial and companionable, enjoys wide acquaintance and has a large circle of warm personal friends, who esteem him for his ability and genuine worth.

PATRICK O'HARRAN.

One of the highly respected and worthy representatives of the Emerald Isle, now living in Fayette county, Iowa, is Patrick O'Harran, who was born in Ireland about 1836, the son of Patrick and Bridget (McNamara) O'Harran, the mother dying in Ireland, where she was born and reared, but the father came to America about 1844 and settled at Utica, New York. His son, Patrick, of this review, joined him here in 1846, having remained in his native land the meanwhile. Owing to the fact that the latter was only about ten years old when he came to Utica, he did not engage in regular work for some time, but he finally went to work on a farm near that city, after receiving his education in the public schools there. His father was a drayman in Utica. After remaining in that city ten years, the subject came West, locat-

ing in Illyria township, Fayette county, Iowa, in 1856, buying eighty acres of land there which he developed into a good farm by hard work, remaining there until 1908 when he moved to West Union, after laying by a competency by general farming operations, and he has since lived retired.

Mr. O'Harran was married in Janesville, Wisconsin, to Maggie Manahan, who proved to be a faithful helpmeet, and this union resulted in the birth of three children, all living at this writing, namely: John, Mary Ellen and Charles. The daughter is the wife of J. J. Fennell, whose sketch is to be found elsewhere in this work.

Mr. O'Harran and his family are faithful members of the Catholic church. The subject is a Republican in national politics and has taken much interest in local affairs, at one time serving very ably as constable of Illyria township.

ANDREW M. CLARK.

Prominent among the enterprising farmers and representative citizens of Eden township is Andrew M. Clark, a native of Canada and an honored member of an old and respected Scotch family which settled at Woodstock, Ontario, in the year 1857. Andrew Clark, Sr., the subject's father, was born near Glasgow, Scotland, April 3, 1833, and married in that city, in June, 1857, Jane Orr, following which he sailed for Canada. In August of the same year located at Woodstock, Ontario, near which place he purchased land and engaged in farming, though formerly a seafaring man. After spending twelve years in Ontario, he disposed of his agricultural interests and, in the fall of 1870, in company with the Murray and Lindsay families, migrated to Fayette county, Iowa, and purchased eighty acres of land two and a fourth miles east of Waucoma, which he improved and on which he lived and prospered until his retirement from active life in the fall of 1901. On leaving the farm Mr. Clark took up his residence in Waucoma, where he made his home until his death, on February 8, 1909; his wife, who survived him, is still living in that town. This excellent couple were highly esteemed in their various places of residence and all who knew them spoke in high praise of their many sturdy characteristics and estimable qualities. Prior to coming to Iowa they were Scotch Presbyterians, but after settling in Fayette county they united with the Congregational church at Waucoma, to which Mr. Clark remained loyal to the day of his death, his widow being still a valued member of the organization. Their children, eight in number, are as follows: David A., a miller

of Langford, South Dakota; Jennie S., wife of E. A. Smith, of Waterloo, Iowa; Andrew M., whose name introduces this sketch; Thomas J., a farmer living near Tagus, North Dakota; Jessie A., who lives in Waucoma with her mother; John H., a farmer of Eden township, now operating the family homestead; Frank R., a hardware merchant at Farley, Iowa, and Viola B., who married A. H. Bender and lives at Glenville, Minnesota.

Andrew M. Clark was born March 25, 1865, at Woodstock, Ontario, and at the age of five years was brought to Iowa by his parents, from which time to the present his life has been largely identified with the development and prosperity of the part of Fayette county in which he now lives. He remained at home assisting his father on the farm until his eighteenth year and in the meantime acquired a practical education in the district schools which he attended during the fall and winter seasons as long as he continued under the parental roof. At the age indicated he severed home ties and began the struggle of life for himself, first as a farm hand at monthly wages, and later went to Dakota, where during the three ensuing years he was employed by his brother as engineer in the latter's flouring mill. Returning to Fayette county at the end of that time, he worked one year on the homestead and then rented another farm in the same township, which he continued to cultivate during the seven years following, meeting with gratifying success the meanwhile.

Mr. Clark, in June, 1901, purchased the farm in Eden township, and, under his labors and judicious management, it is now one of the best improved and among the most valuable farms in this part of the county. It is known as the old Dunn farm and consists of ninety-four acres of fertile land, three and a half miles northeast of Waucoma on the northern boundary of the county, the locality having long been noted for the productiveness of its soil and the value of its agricultural and livestock interests. On moving to the farm Mr. Clark found it in anything but prosperous condition, the buildings being in poor repair, the fences run down and the soil only indifferently cultivated, but with his characteristic industry and energy he went to work and remedied these defects, with the result that his labors were soon manifest in the series of improvements which were inaugurated and in due time carried to completion. He rebuilt the house and converted it into a comfortable and attractive residence and by successful tillage of the soil brought the land to the high state of cultivation for which the farm has since been noted. In all that enters into the make-up of the enterprising and progressive modern American agriculturist, he is easily the peer of any other farmer of the township, and his beautiful and attractive country home, surrounded with every evidence of prosperity and content, bespeaks the presence of one who believes

in the nobility of his vocation and who leaves nothing undone to minister to the comfort and happiness of those dependent upon him.

Mr. Clark's married life dates from July 14, 1891, at which time he was united in the holy bonds of wedlock with Alice Thompson, daughter of Rufus and Elizabeth Thompson, who were among the early settlers of Eden township, where the mother is still living, the father having died some years ago. Mr. and Mrs. Clark have no children of their own, but they have taken great interest in the young people, among whom they have many warm friends in the neighborhood of their residence.

Politically, Mr. Clark is a stanch adherent of the Republican party, the principles of which he believes to be for the best interests of the people and the great mission of which, he is confident, is by no means at an end. He attends the township and county conventions as a delegate and takes an active part in the deliberations of these bodies, serving on important committees and using his influence in the selection of judicious candidates though never himself a seeker after the honors or emoluments of office. Fraternally, he is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, in which he has passed all the chairs, besides belonging, with his wife, to the Rebekah degree, and he is also connected with the order of Woodmen. Religiously, the Congregational church holds his creed, he and Mrs. Clark being esteemed members of the local congregation.

FRANKLIN DEWEY.

Perhaps no class of men living today are entitled to higher honors or greater respect than the veteran boys in blue who sacrificed their all to save their country in the dark days of the sixties, although be it said with shame, a great many of the younger generation do not seem to fully appreciate what these brave men have done for them, nor do they accord the old soldiers proper respect. One of the sons of the North who bore the brunt of battle, the hardships of prison life, the trials of hard campaigns is Franklin Dewey, of Harlan township, Fayette county, Iowa. He was born in Montville, Geauga county, Ohio, June 8, 1839. He was brought to the West when a boy and received his education in the district schools of Fayette and McHenry counties, Illinois. He is the son of Thomas J. and Eunice O. (Stephens) Dewey. The father was born in Westfield, Hampden county, Massachusetts, February 22, 1803, and the mother was born in Montville, Geauga county, Ohio, January 26, 1814; they were married in Montville, February 14, 1835,

the last named state, and lived on a farm there until 1844 when they moved to McHenry county, Illinois, where Mr. Dewey entered government land and lived there for ten years. In 1854 the family moved to Fayette county, Iowa, making the overland trip in wagons, locating in Harlan township, near the town of Maynard, where Mr. Dewey entered eighty acres of land from the government and bought one hundred and sixty acres, and here he and his wife lived until their deaths. Politically, Mr. Dewey was a Republican, but later joined the Greenbackers. He and his wife were the parents of eight children, namely: Franklin, of this review; Jasper, born October 22, 1840, resides at Fulton, Kansas; Addison was born September 11, 1842, resides at Oelwein, Iowa; Malinda C., born September 20, 1844, resided at Maynard, and died on June 25, 1899; Minerva D., born November 6, 1846, died October 11, 1863; Charles L., born September 10, 1848, died October 20, 1863; Miranda D., born May 24, 1850, died October 15, 1863; Ira S., born September 15, 1852, died November 3, 1863.

The father of these children died February 2, 1890, and the mother on October 15, 1894. They were a fine old couple whom everybody respected and admired because of the kindness, generosity and hospitality they exercised.

Franklin Dewey, of this review, lived on a farm with his parents until he was of age, when he hired out as a farm hand and worked in that capacity until 1862. On August 15, 1862, he enlisted in Company F, Third Iowa Infantry, and served until the regiment's term of enlistment expired in June, 1864. He was taken prisoner at Holly Springs, Mississippi, in February, 1863, but at the expiration of twelve hours he was recaptured by the Federal troops. He is a member of the Grand Army of the Republic, Fayette Post No. 46, at Fayette. Upon his return from the army he moved to a farm of one hundred and fifteen acres in Center township which he had bought some time previous, and he lived on the farm until May, 1877, when he sold out and moved to a farm of ninety-two acres in section 5, Harlan township, where he lives at present, having a neat and well improved place.

Mr. Dewey is a Republican, but has never sought office. He holds membership with the Methodist Episcopal church, being steward and trustee of the same, also class leader.

On December 25, 1867, Mr. Dewey married Mary F. Hotchkiss, who was born at Oxford, Chenango county, New York, February 7, 1848. She was educated in the district schools of Fayette county, Iowa, also spent four terms at the Northern Iowa University, being a teacher for a number of years. She was the daughter of Charles W. and Maria (Crandall) Hotch-

kiss, the father born in Smithfield, New York, May 12, 1817, and the mother born in Chenango county, that state, September 8, 1824. They moved to DeKalb county, Illinois, in the fall of 1849, where they lived on a farm until May, 1856, when they drove through by ox teams to Fayette county, Iowa, and located in Center township, where Mr. Hotchkiss entered government land. They were the parents of four children: Mrs. Franklin Dewey; Charles H. lives on the home farm in Center township; Sarah J. is the wife of William H. Sidler, of Oran township, Fayette county; Helen M. is the wife of William Cross and resides in Smithfield township. Mrs. Hotchkiss lives on the home farm with her son, Charles H. Mr. Hotchkiss died February 6, 1904. Mr. and Mrs. Dewey have no children.

PHINEAS C. JAMES.

The subject of this sketch, who is a leading farmer of Scott township and one of the representative citizens of the community in which he resides, is a native of Illinois, born at Flatrock, Ogle county, December 7, 1849. Louis James, his father, was born October 1, 1819, in Wales, came to America with his parents in 1831 and settled in Ogle county, Illinois, where he grew to maturity, received a limited education and began life for himself as a merchant. The subject's paternal grandparents, David and Ann James, were among the pioneers of Ogle county, where they spent the remainder of their lives on a farm, Louis being the only one of their six children now living.

After devoting a number of years to the flour, feed and milling business in his native state, Louis James came to Fayette county, Iowa, and is now spending the evening of his life in the town of Arlington, where he is well known and greatly esteemed. He has reached the advanced age of ninety years and for one so old retains possession of many of his faculties, physical and mental, being quite well preserved, with a memory which is seldom at fault in bringing to mind facts and incidents of the remote past. He has been thrice married, first to Harriett Campbell, some time after whose death he chose a second companion and helpmeet in the person of Mrs. Elizabeth Carpenter.

Prior to the marriage of Mr. James, the subject's mother had contracted a matrimonial alliance with a gentleman by the name of Lindsey, by whom she had three children, only one of whom, Mrs. Mary Wright, widow of Hiram Wright, of Denver, Colorado, is living. Her union with the subject's father

resulted in the birth of six offspring, namely: John, a real estate dealer in California; Phineas C., of this review; Ann, wife of William Feakes, of Greene county, Iowa; Henry H., a farmer of Scott township, Fayette county; Louisa, now Mrs. William Conkey, of Oelwein, and Martha, who married Clifford Hayes, of St. Louis, Missouri, she being deceased.

In early life Phineas C. James attended the common schools of his native county, later he took a high school course and at the proper time began life on his own account, choosing for his vocation the ancient and honorable calling of husbandry. He remained in the state of his birth until September, 1896, when he moved to Fayette county, Iowa, purchasing one hundred and sixty acres of land in section 22, of Scott township, which, under his effective labors and good management, was in due time brought to a high state of tillage and otherwise well improved. In connection with the general agriculture which he conducted upon quite an extensive scale, he has devoted considerable attention to the breeding and raising of live stock, and today there are few in his township as successful as he in this important and remunerative branch of farming. He feeds and markets every year a large number of cattle and hogs, which he ships to Chicago and other markets, and he also owns some of the finest dairy stock in the county which adds much to the liberal income of which he is the recipient.

Mr. James, in 1889, erected the handsome modern dwelling which the family now occupy and which is one of the finest and most attractive country homes in his part of the country, and the year following added still further to the appearance of his farm by erecting a large and commodious barn which is admirably adapted to the various purposes it is intended to subserve. His other buildings are also up to date and in excellent repair and, being situated in one of the best agricultural districts of the country, with an abundance of wood for all practical purposes, the nine hundred acres of land which he now owns in point of fertility and productiveness are unexcelled by any similar area within the limits of the county.

Mr. James is an enterprising man of sound intelligence and mature judgment and since moving to this state his career presents a series of successes such as few attain. He keeps almost ahead of the times on all matters pertaining to his calling, takes an active interest in the material advancement of the township and counties and, like all enterprising and wide-awake men, is fully informed on the leading questions and issues before the public, and, as a Republican, he wields a strong influence for his party though not in the direction of office seekers.

The domestic life of Mr. James dates from the year 1889, when he was

happily married to Mary McMillan, a native of Scotland, and a daughter of Alexander and ——— (Campbell) McMillan, who immigrated to this country when Mrs. James was a child, and settled in Scott township, Fayette county, where in due time both passed to their final reward. Mr. and Mrs. James have a family of six children, whose names are as follows: Charles J., Ethel L., Floyd L., Ella M., Belle M. and Edith A., all living and giving great promise of future usefulness. Mrs. James is a member of the Baptist church at Stanley. Although not identified with any organization himself, Mr. James has great respect for the church, which he believes to be a powerful agency for good, being a regular attendant of the one to which his wife belongs and a liberal contributor to its support.

W. C. STEWART, V. S.

Although a young man, Dr. W. C. Stewart has become known throughout Fayette county as one of the leading representatives of his profession in this part of the state. He comes from an excellent family of this county, he himself being a native of the same, born in Harlan township, June 23, 1881, the son of William and Stella B. (Ketchum) Stewart, the former a native of Ohio and the latter of Indiana. They grew to maturity and were educated in their respective states, and they came west in 1877, having married in the East. They located in Windsor township where they purchased a farm of one hundred and sixty acres; a few years later they sold this and purchased one hundred and sixty acres in Harlan township and there they still reside, carrying on general farming very successfully, having made rapid progress since coming to this county. William Stewart is a Prohibitionist and a member of the Methodist Episcopal church, always taking a great deal of interest in whatever tends to promote the moral as well as the material good of the county.

Dr. W. C. Stewart, of this review, is the fifth child of a family of six sons and one daughter. He was educated in the district schools, later attending the high schools at Maynard and Oelwein, making a good record in each. In the fall of 1903 he entered the veterinary department of the Iowa State University at Ames, from which he was graduated with a very creditable record in 1907. He immediately located in West Union and until November, 1909, he maintained his office in the Wimber barn and from there successfully practiced his profession, soon becoming widely known as a capable,

thoroughly up-to-date and painstaking veterinary surgeon. In November, 1909, he bought the old store barn which in the early days was the stable of the old United States House, and here he has established a veterinary hospital and is doing an extensive business, which is constantly increasing.

On October 16, 1907, Doctor Stewart married Clara Myer, the daughter of John Myer, a well known citizen of Fayette county, where Mrs. Stewart was reared and educated. The Doctor and his wife are members of the Eastern Star, and the former belongs to the Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, also the Modern Woodmen of America; he also belongs to the American Veterinary Association and the Iowa State Veterinary Association, taking much interest in the affairs of each.

SIMON B. O'NEILL.

In enumerating the progressive, public-spirited and worthy citizens of Fayette county, who are deserving of specific mention in a work of the province assigned to the one at hand, the name of Simon B. O'Neill should not be overlooked, for he has succeeded in forging his way to the front rank amid discouraging environment while yet a man young in years. He is a native of Illyria township, this county, having first seen the light of day on June 29, 1878, and he is the son of John and Ellen (McGuire) O'Neill, the former a native of Utica, New York, and the latter of Iowa, each representative of good pioneer families. The subject's paternal grandparents, Simon and Mary (Manahan) O'Neill, were both natives of Ireland, coming from that country to America about 1859, locating at Utica, New York. The grandfather devoted his life to farming, though he did not remain long in the state of New York (three or four years), coming to Iowa about 1868 or 1869, locating in Illyria township, Fayette county, where he purchased eighty acres on which he made his home until his death.

The father of Simon B. O'Neill was educated in the public schools of Illyria township, remaining on his father's farm until he was seventeen or eighteen years of age. He then learned the carpenter's trade, which he has since followed, becoming a very skilled workman. He now lives in West Union, and many of the best houses and business blocks in this locality attest to his ability as a carpenter and builder.

Simon B. O'Neill was reared and educated in Illyria township, this county, attending the common schools during the winter months and assist-

ing with the work on the farm during the crop season. He has always preferred to follow farming, although he learned the carpenter's trade under his father. He is the owner of one hundred and twenty acres of highly productive and well improved land in Pleasant Valley township, which he purchased in 1897, and he has made this place his home with the exception of one or two years. He carries on general farming and stock raising very successfully, and devotes his attention to feeding cattle for the market, the "ins and outs" of which he well understands and therefore makes it a paying business. He has a pleasant and attractive home and is well fixed to enjoy life as well as lay by a competency for his declining years. He also followed threshing for about nine years in connection with farming and became widely known in this line of work.

Mr. O'Neill was married, October 28, 1903, to Fannie Boyle, daughter of William and Rosana (Monahan) Boyle, both born in Ireland, but who came to America when young and were among the early settlers in Fayette county, Iowa, where they soon had the respect of all their neighbors. To Mr. and Mrs. O'Neill two children have been born, Frances Ellen and Francis Joseph.

Mr. and Mrs. O'Neill are members of the Catholic church and faithful attendants upon the same. Mr. O'Neill is a Democrat politically, and he has been school director in his local district, though he has never aspired to public office.

J. W. MILLER.

Switzerland, though a small and mountainous country, has made a history highly creditable to herself, while sending out her sons to all parts of the world to take part in the development of other regions. They are noted for their industrious habits, skill in the trades and various branches of manufacture and also in farming and gardening, especially all branches of dairying. Such people are valuable acquisitions to any state, but they were especially desirable in the Northwest when that section was being settled and needed skillful farmers and dairymen. Iowa, which is naturally adapted to the dairy business, found need for all immigrants who understand the business and she had land for all industrious homeseekers who came over during the formative period. Sprinkled all through this ideal agricultural state will be found Scandinavian, German and Swiss farmers, to whose energy and skill is due much of the prosperity now common to the people of this great commonwealth. They had a marvelous faculty of acquiring and improving land and

many of the best farms in the state are now owned by men who crossed the ocean with just enough means to get to their destination. The present generation is reaping the benefits of the toil and privation of their emigrant ancestors and worthily managing the properties which they inherited. This sketch deals with a representative family of the kind above described and a few biographical notes concerning them will be found of interest.

John F. Miller was born in canton Bern, Switzerland, in the early half of the nineteenth century, and when seventeen years old decided to cast his fortunes with the great republic beyond the sea. He had but scanty means, little more than enough to pay his passage over, but he had a brave heart and an ambition to succeed that usually brings success. After reaching the United States he made his way directly across the continent, accompanied by a brother named Christian, their objective point being Iowa. Reaching Fayette county, the two brothers decided to locate in Pleasant Valley township, which "looked good" to them. They engaged in farm work and by industry and attention to duty in time "made good." John F. was not long in securing a farm of his own, which he cultivated with success while rearing a large family. He married Mary Islie, a native of Switzerland, who came to this county with her parents when five years of age, twelve years prior to the arrival of her future husband. The Islies first located in Ohio, but soon located in Fayette county on a farm in Pleasant Valley township. They had ten children, devoted all their lives to farming, belonged to the Baptist church and were good all-around citizens of the kind that build up communities.

Among the ten children above mentioned was J. W. Miller, who was born on the homestead in Pleasant Valley township, Fayette county, Iowa, April 4, 1863. He obtained the usual common school education, but from earliest boyhood was trained to hard work, just as his ancestors had been for generations. After working for wages for some years he eventually acquired three hundred and ten acres of his own in Pleasant Valley township, which he has improved and cultivated. He devotes himself to general farming and stock-raising and gives up his whole time to the duties called for by the business. He has been a director in the Clermont Creamery since the second year after its organization and paid considerable attention to making a success of the business. For eight years he served as assessor of the township, discharging his duties well and gave entire satisfaction to his constituents. He is regarded as a reliable man in all the duties of life and stands well in his community. He and his family are members of the Baptist church and Mr. Miller has always been affiliated with the Republican party.

On November, 1884, Mr. Miller married Mary Muchlenthoner, a native

of Switzerland, and they have eleven children, Louisa, Esther, Mary, Wesley, Hulda, George, Lilly, Bennie, Otto, Florence and Ada. They live quietly and unostentatiously in a neat home on a farm that is well managed and successfully cultivated.

C. L. SHAFFER.

The real estate merchant, though often maligned, carries on a business which has done more than any other to build up our communities. He it is who locates the garden spots and farming paradises and brings them to the attention of a public who without him never would know of their existence. He locates town sites in the midst of wild prairie, and, lo and behold, thanks to this modern wizard of civilization, soon a city blossoms like the rose, growing as it were over night. Mr. Shaffer, such a man, has gained pecuniary success as a portion of his reward; as another portion, he has the consciousness of the happiness of many people placed in comfortable homes through his efforts.

C. L. Shaffer was born near Springfield, Illinois, May 16, 1855. When he was nine weeks old his parents came west to Iowa and located in the Big Woods in Black Hawk county, where they lived until 1863, when they moved to West Union, where C. L. was educated; then, in 1867, they moved to Highland township, Fayette county. Despite the severity of some of our present winters, the winters then seem to have been even colder. In the winter of 1878 his father's horses strayed away from home and were lost for twenty-seven days in the exceptionally deep snow. Mr. Shaffer remained on his father's farm until 1876, when he married Maria J. Ogle, who was born in Ohio, and came to Fayette county at a very early age. He then commenced farming for himself in the same township. Ten years later he moved to Richville, where he was interested in the creamery business, and was afterwards engaged in the same business in Fayette county at Elgin. In 1882 he was in Arlington, Illinois, where he had the misfortune to lose his house and all his possessions in the cyclone of June 11th. From Fayette county he moved to Alma, Harlan county, Nebraska, and ran a hotel there for six years, then returned to Fayette county and again took up farming, this time in Illyria township. He bought eighty acres of land, but soon sold it and went in partnership with J. I. Phillips, of Highland township, in the breeding of Norman and German coach horses, remaining in this business for four

years, then formed a mercantile partnership with S. J. Capper, of West Elgin, with whom he stayed five years, retiring to enter the livery business in Elgin. He continued this for a year and a half, sold out, bought a hundred-acre farm, lived on it five months, then returned to Elgin, and went into the real estate business, carrying on operations in Texas, South Dakota, Minnesota, and this part of Iowa.

Mr. Shaffer's wife died in 1906, and in 1908 he married Belle Jaquette, who was born in Scott county, Iowa. Her parents came to Clermont, Fayette county, when she was very young. Her father is one of the few of the old stage drivers now living. He farmed in Fayette county from 1862 with the exception of a few years spent in North county, until recently. For the past four years he has been night watchman in the canning factory at Elgin.

While Mr. Shaffer was in Nebraska he served as deputy sheriff one year. He is a Republican, and served as mayor of Elgin six years to general satisfaction, and then resigned. The Odd Fellows and Modern Woodmen of America claim him as a brother in their organizations. The various characters of the occupations which he has followed have given him an experience wider than the average, and one very valuable in his present business, in which his success has been notable.

WILLIAM O. SUMNER.

This representative farmer and stock raiser and for a number of years one of the leading citizens of Scott township, is a native of Saratoga county, New York, where his birth occurred on January 31, 1837. His grandfather, James Sumner, married Asenath Alvord, whose birth occurred in Middleton, that state, December 26, 1783. By occupation James Sumner was a tanner and furrier, which trades he followed in Saratoga county for a number of years, later in life turning his attention to agricultural pursuits. He was for many years a deacon in the Baptist church and is remembered as a man of fervent piety who exemplified his Christian faith in his relations with his fellow men. Mrs. Sumner departed this life January 1, 1862, and her husband on February 26, 1864.

James and Asenath Sumner were the parents of children as follows: 24, 1806, married, October 13, 1831, Richard Sherman, and died on the 23d of May, 1857; Harriett was born July 23, 1810, became the wife of S. L.

Hazeldorn on the 19th of June, 1834, and died May 4, 1885; James, father of the subject, was born September 6, 1812, married Sophia Hazeldorn, of Saratoga county, New York, March 3, 1836, she having been born on the 23d of May, 1807. He departed this life August 30, 1886, she preceding him to the grave on July 26, 1842; Anna, the fifth of the family, was born May 20, 1818, married on August 23, 1843, T. L. Gillette and was called from earth on the 8th of October, 1853; William, whose birth occurred on the 21st of March, 1820, died February 20, 1837; Lucinda, born July 20, 1822, was married on June 12, 1850, to H. L. Burr, and died April 22, 1878; Asenath, the youngest of the family, was born December 8, 1824, and on the 7th day of February, 1849, became the wife of William L. Wait.

Jonathan Hazeldorn, father of Mrs. James Sumner, and grandfather of the subject of this review, was born in New York, October 7, 1770, married on December 3, 1792, Abigail York, of Shepardtown, that state, and died January 15, 1866, she having died on May 31st of the year 1857. Their children, eight in number, were as follows: Samuel, born September 2, 1793, was married to Sylvia Liggett on the 9th of November, 1820, and died April 3, 1853, his wife departing this life March 15, 1835; Charlotte, whose birth occurred on June 31, 1795, was married July 19, 1818, to S. Bass and died March 15, 1835; Thomas, born September 23, 1797, was married September 1, 1822, to Harriett Pixley, who died on the 4th day of April, 1853; John was born November 30, 1800, married, July 12, 1827, Mabel M. ——— and passed from earth on February 22, 1843; Abigail was born May 6, 1803, became the wife of James Sumner (subject's father) on April 27, 1843, and departed this life September 15, 1870; Sophia was born May 23, 1807, and became Mrs. James Sumner on the 3d day of March, 1836, this being his first marriage. Stephen L., born October 24, 1811, was married January 19, 1834, to Harriett Sumner and died September 24, 1892. Dr. Thomas York, father of Abigail York, wife of Jonathan Hazeldorn, was a surgeon in the American army during the war of the Revolution, and in addition to his profession also baked bread for the regiment with which he was connected.

James Sumner, father of William O., as already stated, was a native of Fulton county, New York. He early became a tiller of the soil in Saratoga county, where he lived until 1865, when he moved to Orleans county, in the same state, where he spent the remainder of his days. His first wife, as noted in a preceding paragraph, was Sophia Hazeldorn, after whose death he married her older sister, Abigail. The latter dying, he afterwards chose a third wife and helpmeet in the person of Sallie Ann Wild, of Orleans

county. There were three children born of his first marriage, William O., of this sketch, being the only one living. James Sumner was a man of considerable local prominence and for many years was a leader of the Whig party in the counties of Saratoga and Orleans and in 1860-61 served in the General Assembly of New York. His death, already mentioned, was felt as a personal loss by all who enjoyed the privilege of his acquaintance.

William C. Sumner was reared on the home farm and in addition to tilling the soil he worked in a saw-mill during his youth, his father having carried on the manufacture of lumber in connection with agricultural pursuits. After receiving an elementary education in the schools of his native county, he entered the Keystone Academy, where he pursued his studies for several years, obtaining a knowledge of the higher branches of learning. On attaining his majority he engaged in farming in Saratoga county, where he lived and prospered for several years, subsequently removing to the county of Orleans where he continued the pursuit of agriculture and where he still owns the family homestead, a beautiful place of one hundred and thirty acres in Shelby township.

In March, 1869, Mr. Sumner came to Fayette county, Iowa, and located on section 33, Scott township, where he secured one hundred and sixty acres of fine land, in addition to which he also purchased an eighty-acre tract in Buchanan county, owning at one time four hundred acres, the greater part of which he reduced to cultivation and otherwise improved. Subsequently he disposed of considerable of his real estate, but still retains two hundred and forty acres on which he now lives and which, under his excellent management, has become one of the finest and most valuable farms in the county of Fayette.

Mr. Sumner was married in Saratoga county, New York, in 1859, to Atlanta Manchester, daughter of Aaron and Hannah Manchester, the father a prominent agriculturist of that county and for many years a justice of the peace and public spirited citizen. He died in 1886, aged eighty-six years, his wife surviving him until 1888, when she was called to the unseen world, after reaching the advanced age of eighty-eight years. Mr. and Mrs. Sumner have one daughter, Alice, widow of the late Charles Winslow, to whom she was married in the year 1888. Mr. Winslow, a civil engineer by profession, was for a number of years in the employ of the Chicago Great Western Railroad Company, with headquarters at St. Paul, Minnesota. He was accomplished in his profession, enjoyed the confidence of the corporation with

which identified and his accidental death, in 1906, cast a gloom over the minds of all who knew him.

Since the year 1869 Mr. Sumner has lived on his prairie farm in Scott township and, as already stated, he has long ranked with the leading men of his vocation in the county. He is public spirited in all the term implies, takes an active interest in the advancement of his community along material and other lines and at all times is ready to lend his support to enterprises having for their object the general welfare of his fellow men. In politics he is an ardent supporter of the Republican party, but aside from the office of assessor, which he held for a period of fifteen years, he has never aspired to public position or leadership. The Baptist church, with which he has long been identified, holds his religious creed. Mrs. Sumner also belongs to the same church and is zealous in its various lines of religious work.

JOHN H. MILLER.

Nothing is more remarkable than the recent change in attitude towards the farmer. There was a time when the word farmer was a term of reproach, the farmer boy was looked upon as an unsophisticated greenhorn and "rube" jokes were quite popular. Now the city dwellers are wishing that they owned farms and envying the farmer's lot, the farmer boy is as well dressed and as well educated as any one, has lost his "rube" appearance, and can generally go his city cousin one better on money to spend. The noble vocation of farming is again gaining the respect due it, which for a time was lost.

John H. Miller was born in Wayne county, Ohio, June 28, 1852, the son of Henry Miller, originally of Pennsylvania, and Mary Miller, originally of New York, both of whom came to Ohio in 1842. The first railroad reached Wooster, Ohio, on the day John H. was born. He grew up on the farm eight miles from Wooster, and in 1872 came to Eau Claire, Wisconsin, to work in the lumber mills. In summer he ran the big lumber rafts from Eau Claire to Nabisha. On December 30, 1875, he was married to Amanda Smith, of Durand, Wisconsin, a town where his own home had been while working on the river. In the spring of 1876 he came to this county, where his brother, William Miller, now of Waucoma, had preceded him two years. He rented for three years and then bought the farm lying in the northwest corner of Bethel township. He started on a small farm of prairie and grub-

covered land. He had to go in debt for every cent of the price and it took years to pay for it. He left it in 1907, coming to his present home in Eden township, but still owns the old place. His present farm contains one hundred and sixty acres, has good buildings on it, and is one of the best improved farms of the neighborhood. The house stands on a ridge in the midst of a fine grove of ash and maple trees, all set out by the owners. The house has been remodeled by Mr. Miller to make it a pleasant home. He also owns a fifty-five-acre farm bordering on Crane creek. His home is four and one-half miles from Waucoma. He has carried on general farming, and has always bred good grade stock. His horses are Hambletonian, coach and Cleveland bay, and he has bred some very fine individuals of all these breeds.

Mr. Miller has two daughters, Gertie, the wife of Guy Trewin, who is farming the old place, a nephew of Attorney Trewin at Cedar Rapids, and the mother of one child, Doris; and Ethel J., a stenographer, graduate of a business college, living at home. Mr. Miller is a Democrat, a member of the Methodist church at Alpha, Crane Creek Lodge No. 338, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, at Saurer formerly, but of Alpha lodge now, and of the Waucoma lodge of Masons, while he and his wife are both members of the Eastern Star. He is a man of few idiosyncrasies, a plain man who attends to business strictly, and by so doing has gained a competency.

B. R. FRISBEE.

Upon the roll of representative citizens and prominent and influential business men of a past generation in Fayette county, consistently appears the name of B. R. Frisbee, who was a resident of this locality for a number of years, during which time he gradually won his way into the affections of the people, for he possessed those sterling qualities of character which commended themselves to persons of intelligence and the highest morality, so it is no cause for wonder that he achieved so high a position in the estimation of all with whom he was associated, and now that his life work is closed and he has gone to his reward his influence still pervades the lives of his old associates and they revere his memory.

Mr. Frisbee was born in Burlington county, Connecticut, December 7, 1830, and he received his education in the schools of the old Nutmeg state, growing to maturity there and remaining at home until he reached manhood. But, being imbued with the western idea, he followed the trend

of emigration setting in strongly to that particular portion of the nation in the fifties, and in 1857 he came to Freeport, Illinois, where he remained until the war between the states began, when he showed his patriotism and his love of country by enlisting in Company K, Forty-sixth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, in which he served faithfully and gallantly for a period of three years, after the expiration of his term of enlistment receiving an honorable discharge.

Mr. Frisbee was married to Drusilla Clark on November 4, 1870. She was born in Manchester, Iowa, where her people were well established and prominent. After their marriage they went to Freeport where they lived until 1871, when they moved to a farm in Union township, Fayette county, where the family has since resided.

Mr. Frisbee was the last survivor of a family of fourteen children. He worked in the hammer factory while living at Freeport, and also sold lightning rods. He prospered as a farmer and owned one hundred acres in one farm and one hundred and sixty acres where he first lived. He there put up a saw mill which he operated with much success for a number of years, although there were several other mills along the same stream where his mill was located, but he was most successful as a general farmer and he laid by an ample competency for his family.

To Mr. and Mrs. Frisbee the following children were born: B. O. is an engineer, now living in San Francisco, California; E. L. married Grace Randall in 1896; Aloe, Howard and Edward.

Mr. Frisbee was a member of the Methodist Episcopal church, of which Mrs. Frisbee is also a member. In his youth he was a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and an active and influential member of the Grand Army of the Republic. No family in Fayette county is held in higher regard than the Frisbees.

ANDREW GILBERTSON.

It is always pleasant and profitable to contemplate the career of a man who has made a success of life and won the honor and respect of his fellow citizens. Such is the record of the well known farmer whose name heads this sketch, than whom a more whole-souled or popular man it would be difficult to find within the limits of the township where he has his home.

Andrew Gilbertson, whose attractive and productive homestead is located in Clermont township, Fayette county, is a native of far-away Norway,

where his birth took place on the 19th day of September, 1866. His parents, Ole and Rachael (Anderson) Gilbertson, were also natives of Norway, the father having been born on August 12, 1835, and the mother on September 4, 1837. They came to the United States and to Fayette county in 1869 and settled on forty acres of land, to which the father devoted his energies with satisfactory results. As he prospered he added to his landed possessions until he became the owner of one hundred and ten acres. He was successful as a farmer and is now able to live in retirement from active labor, enjoying that rest which he has so richly earned. He is a Republican in political belief and he and his wife are members of the Lutheran church. They became the parents of three children, as follows: Julia, who died at the age of sixteen years; Gilbert, who died at the age of three years; and Andrew, the immediate subject of this sketch.

Andrew Gilbertson was reared under the parental roof and secured a good practical education in the public schools of this country, having been an infant of but three years when the family came to Fayette county. He early in boyhood took up his share of the farm work and he has never departed from that line of work, having had the discernment to foresee the wonderful possibilities open to the farmers of this country. He has given careful thought and intelligent direction to his efforts and his labor has been abundantly rewarded. He is the owner of three hundred and fifty acres of land, which he devotes to the raising of all the crops common to this section of the country, and he also, with good results, devotes considerable attention to the raising of livestock. His farm is characterized by improvements of a high order, including a comfortable and attractive residence, commodious barns and other necessary outbuildings, the general appearance of the place indicating the owner to be a man of good judgment and excellent taste.

In 1897 Mr. Gilbertson was united in marriage to Sarah Goth, who was born in Clayton county, this state, the daughter of Halsten and Rachel Goth. These parents were early settlers of this part of the state, having come to Clayton county in 1853. Her father died in Clermont in 1909, and he is survived by his widow, who is now eighty years of age. To Mr. and Mrs. Gilbertson have been born four children, namely: Rose, Oscar, Roy and Helen.

The political creed embodied in the platforms of the Republican party have met with the approval of Mr. Gilbertson, who has given that party his support ever since attaining his majority. He takes a keen interest in public affairs, though not a seeker after public office. Religiously, he is a faithful member of the Lutheran church, to which the members of his family also

belong. Public spirited and progressive in his views, Mr. Gilbertson has ever given his support to those measures which have promised to be of material benefit to the community and he is justly numbered among its representative citizens.

MRS. ANNIS DAVIS.

The estimable lady whose name introduces this sketch is a favorite with a wide circle of friends in Fayette county, being a woman of high ideals and correct principles, and a representative of one of the best old families of the county, also the widow of a well remembered and highly honored citizen of Bethel township, the late Lewis H. Davis. She was born in January, 1851, in Fremont county, Ohio, and is the daughter of Joseph and Annie (Glick) Morse, the father a sterling New Englander, having been born in Vermont, March 14, 1802. Emigrating west, he located in Fairfield county, Ohio, and there he married Annie Glick, a native of that county. In 1852 the parents of Mrs. Davis moved to Winneshiek county, Iowa, being among the pioneers of that locality. The country was wild and wolves were frequently seen, and an occasional lynx added its quota of danger to the hardships of life in a new country. Mr. Morse followed farming there for many years and on the old homestead in Winneshiek county the subject grew to womanhood. She assisted with the manifold duties about the home and attended the neighboring schools during her girlhood days.

On November 1, 1875, Miss Morse and Lewis H. Davis were married. He was then a resident of West Union, but was born in Shelby county, Ohio, in 1839. He was the son of Cornelius and Matilda (Farrow) Davis. His ancestors came from Virginia to Ohio in an early day and there Lewis H. spent his childhood. In the early fifties he came with his parents to Fayette county, Iowa, and grew to manhood on the home farm a mile east of West Union. He attended the early schools, and his first marriage was to Minerva Van Dorn, whose parents lived near West Union. Two children were born to them, Lydia and Florence Davis; the former married H. L. McCubbin and lives at Reno, Nevada; the latter married E. S. Butz and lives in South Adelaide, Australia. The mother of these children dying, Mr. Davis subsequently led to the hymeneal altar Annis Morse, as above noted.

Mr. and Mrs. Davis continued to reside on his farm of sixty acres near West Union about fourteen years. This place was sold about 1889 and they moved three and one-half miles southeast of Fayette where Mr. Davis pur-

chased a farm of one hundred and sixty acres, and there they continued to reside for a period of fourteen years, developing a fine farm and laying by a competency through good management and hard work. They then moved into a neat and comfortable dwelling in Auburn, but retained the farm. While living in the town of Auburn, Mr. Davis was called to his reward on September 9, 1906.

Mr. and Mrs. Davis were the parents of two children, Clarence C. and Alice. The daughter went to Lemoore county, California, where her half-sister, Mrs. Lydia McCubbin, then resided, and there her death occurred in 1909, at the age of twenty-one years; she was a young lady of much promise.

After the death of Lewis H. Davis, Mrs. Davis and her son, Clarence C., a young man of excellent business qualifications, made their home with Peter Snyder, whose sketch appears on another page of this work, and the three have had their home together ever since. For about four years the two families had their joint home near Arlington. In September, 1909, when Mr. Snyder bought a farm in the southeast quarter of section 35, Bethel township, they all moved there, and have continued to make this attractive vicinity their home.

SAMUEL R. STIGGALL.

Holding worthy prestige among the enterprising farmers and representative citizens of Jefferson township is Samuel R. Stiggall, who was born in Erie, Ohio, in October, 1854. His father, Samuel Stiggall, was a native of England, where his birth occurred in the year 1827, and his mother, who bore the maiden name of Emily Hamer, was born in 1831 in Dutchess county, New York. The father was brought to America by his parents when two years old and grew up in Onondaga county, New York, where, in 1848, he and Emily Hamer were united in the bonds of wedlock. Two years later they moved to Ohio and after a residence of two years in that state, came to Iowa, locating, in 1856, in Jefferson township, Fayette county, where Mr. Stiggall purchased forty acres of land, to which he subsequently added one hundred and sixty acres, all wild and in the condition that nature had made it. In due time he reduced the greater part of his land to cultivation, made a number of valuable improvements and it was not long until he was accounted one of the leading farmers and public spirited men of the township in which he resided.

Mr. Stiggall lived on the above farm until the year 1897, when he moved

to Oelwein where he spent the remainder of his days in honorable retirement, departing this life on the 26th of May, 1909. He was widely and favorably known throughout the county, took an active interest in public matters and long wielded an influence for the Democratic party and in the Baptist church, of which for many years he had been a worthy and devoted member. His wife, who is still living in Oelwein, bore him eleven children whose names are as follows: Mary is married and lives in Jefferson township; Asa, retired farmer, resides in Fayette; Samuel R., subject of this sketch; Rose is married and lives in Minnesota; Walter, a farmer of Jefferson township; George, also a resident of that township and a farmer by occupation; Dora, now Mrs. James Lawrence, of Cedar Rapids; Martha, wife of Henry Baltison, of Oelwein; Edwin, a farmer of Smithfield township; Charles, a farmer and stock raiser of Buchanan county, this state, and Della, who married Ed Fortner, of the county of Fayette.

The early life of Samuel R. Stiggall, in close touch with nature on the farm, was conducive to a well developed physique and he grew to maturity strong of body and with a well defined purpose to become something more than a mere passive factor in the affairs of men. He attended the public schools at intervals during his minority and remained at home assisting in the cultivation of the farm until twenty-four years of age when he married and set up a domestic establishment of his own, choosing for his wife and helpmeet Annie Gardner, of Delaware county, Iowa, to whom he was joined in the holy bonds of matrimony on the 26th day of October, 1881.

Mrs. Stiggall's parents were Rufus and Elizabeth Gardner, natives respectively of Delaware county, Iowa, and Dutchess county, New York, the mother being a daughter of one of the early pioneers of Delaware county and a veteran of the Black Hawk war and the war of the Rebellion. Rufus Gardner, also an early settler of Delaware county, moved his family to the county of Fayette in 1880 and settled in Oran township, but later changed his residence to Buchanan county, thence returned to Fayette county and spent the remainder of his life at Oelwein, where his death occurred on April 17, 1890, his widow being still a resident of that city. The children of this estimable couple, four in number, are as follows: Annie, wife of the subject of this review; Andrew, a railroad man with headquarters at Minneapolis, Minnesota; D——, a resident of St. Paul, Minnesota, and an employe of the Chicago Great Western Railroad, the same road with which his brother is connected, and Blanche, who married D. E. Taylor, of Clarksville, Iowa.

Immediately after his marriage, Mr. Stiggall rented a farm in Jefferson township, on which he lived during the three years ensuing, and later, in 1892,

he purchased eighty acres in section 30, where he now lives. He has made many improvements on his farm, erecting a commodious barn in 1896 and in 1905 built the beautiful modern dwelling which he and his wife now occupy, besides adding to the attractiveness and value of his home in many other ways. He cultivates the soil by the most approved methods, is progressive in his ideas and as a farmer and stock raiser ranks among the most enterprising and successful of his compeers. Mr. Stiggall is a well informed man and aims to keep abreast of the times on all matters of public interest and in touch with the leading political questions and issues of the day. In his political affiliations he is a stanch and unwavering supporter of the Republican party and, while zealous in upholding his opinions, his ambition has never led him to seek office at the hands of his fellow citizens. He is held in high esteem in his own community where his worth has long been recognized and appreciated, and he also has many friends elsewhere, being well known throughout the county and enjoying the confidence of all with whom he comes into contact.

HERMAN NEUMANN.

Among the large class of enterprising Germans who have cast their lot with the people of Fayette county, Iowa, none is more deserving of specific mention than Herman Neumann, and few have benefited themselves or their neighbors more than he, for while laboring for his own advancement he has never been neglectful of his duties to others. He was born in Germany in 1852, the son of Fred and Louise Neumann. The father spent his life in the fatherland, but the mother and the rest of the family, with the exception of one child, came to America, four boys and an equal number of girls coming to our shores. The family located in Watertown, Wisconsin, where they remained three years, then the mother and Herman, of this review, moved to Ft. Atkinson, where they lived about a year; then they lived on a farm near Eldorado, that state, for about two years, then purchased sixty acres near that city, which they retained for two years and then bought eighty acres in Union township, Fayette county, Iowa, which they retained for about six years, then rented a farm four miles south of Hawkeye where they lived a year, then bought sixty acres where they now live. Prospering here, ten acres were first added to the original, then forty-five, and a second forty-five, now owning over a quarter section. Mr. Neumann has been a good manager and has placed all the improvements on his farm and so well has he carried on general

farming that he deserves to rank with the leading agriculturists of the township. He handles a good grade of stock and makes farming and stock raising pay, no matter what the times may bring forth. He has a substantial, pleasantly located and nicely furnished home and everything about the place shows thrift and prosperity and that a gentleman of good judgment and taste has its management in hand. The mother of Herman Neumann died after coming to Fayette county, and many of the changes in location were made after the subject's marriage.

Mr. Neumann was married in 1876 to Margaret Reisner, who was born in Wisconsin, the daughter of Henry and Mary (Hawe) Reisner, both born in Germany, from which country they came to America and located in Wisconsin. When Mrs. Neumann was three years of age they moved to Clermont township, Fayette county, Iowa, and engaged in farming. Mrs. Reisner is still living on a farm one mile west of West Union.

To Mr. and Mrs. Herman Neumann the following children have been born: Martha is living in Kansas; Louisa, Emma, Bertha, Edward, Lewis, Tilla, Walter and Ella, all live in Fayette county, Iowa. Particular attention has been given to the education and general training of these children.

Mr. and Mrs. Neumann are members of the German Lutheran church. They are highly respected people of this township, or wherever they have lived, being hospitable, kind, friendly and honorable in all their relations with their neighbors.

JAMES SUMMER SHERMAN.

The subject of this sketch is a prosperous farmer of Scott township and a well known gentleman, who has made a success of his calling and who holds a large place in the esteem and confidence of the people of his neighborhood. He is a native of Chautauqua county, New York, where his birth occurred on the 3d day of September, 1844, being the second of two children born to Richard D. and Phoebe (Summer) Sherman, both of that county and state, the father a tanner and shoemaker by occupation. These parents grew up and married in the above county and some time after the birth of their children they moved to Geneva, Ohio, but, not being satisfied there, returned to New York at the end of two years, and spent the remainder of their lives near their native place, Mrs. Sherman dying in 1856. Subsequently Mr. Sherman married Jane Barney, of Chautauqua county, who is still living, his death having occurred in the year 1889. Mrs. Lucy Reed, the older of the

two children born of the first marriage, is deceased, James S. of this review being the second in order of birth. Richard D. Sherman was a skillful workman, reputable citizen and had a large number of friends where he was born and grew to maturity. Originally a Whig, he afterwards became a Republican and so continued to the end of his days, though never figuring very actively as a politician nor aspiring to official position or leadership. He was a worthy communicant of the Baptist church and manifested his religious faith in his daily life as he mingled with his fellow men.

James S. Sherman spent his childhood and youth in his native county, and enjoyed such educational advantages as the public schools afforded. He remained with his father until about thirteen years old, when he left the parental roof and for several years thereafter lived with William Reed. In 1869 he was united in marriage with Harriett J. Chase, daughter of John Chase, of Fulton county, New York, and the same year came to Fayette county, Iowa, locating in Scott township, where he purchased eighty acres of wild land which he at once proceeded to improve and which in due time he brought to a high state of cultivation and converted into one of the best farms of its size in that part of the country.

Mr. Sherman's first residence was a small affair of the most primitive pattern, but as prosperity attended him he subsequently added to the acreage of his farm and erected the fine, modern dwelling which the family now occupy, also a commodious barn and other outbuildings, his place at this time being well improved, and, to all appearances, one of the most beautiful and desirable homes in this township. As a farmer Mr. Sherman easily ranks among the enterprising and successful men of his calling in Fayette county, being progressive in his methods and fully abreast of the times on all matters pertaining to agricultural science. He raises considerable livestock, devoting special attention to the finer breeds of cattle, horses and hogs and seldom fails to realize handsome returns from both branches of his vocation. In politics he is pronounced in his allegiance to the Republican party, and is proud of having cast his first presidential ballot for Abraham Lincoln, and is firm in the belief that the principles which he advocates are for the best interests of the American people. He keeps well informed on the questions and issues of the day and, though by no means an office seeker, he served his township several years as trustee and made an honorable record as a public servant. Religiously, he belongs to the Union church at Stanley, with which body of worshipers his wife was also identified.

Mrs. Sherman departed this life on March 11, 1903, leaving besides her husband four children to mourn her loss. Lola, the oldest of the number,

was born March 8, 1882, married Wilbur H. Clark, and is the mother of four offspring, namely: Carrie, Harriett, Annie and Dorris; James, the second of the subject's children, is single and lives at home. Ray R., the third in order of birth, married Annie Irvin and is the father of two daughters, who answer to the names of Dorothy and Ruth. He is cashier of the Stanley Exchange Bank and a young man of fine business ability. Grace, the youngest of the family, is the wife of Edward Stinson and the mother of one son, to whom has been given the name of Gerald.

JAMES W. JOHNSON.

The subject of this sketch, who now occupies the responsible position of general round-house foreman at Oelwein for the Chicago Great Western railroad, has during his comparatively brief residence here won a host of friends, who admire him for his sterling personal qualities and his genial disposition. Mr. Johnson was born at Marshalltown, Iowa, on January 17, 1865, and is a son of Wallace and Jane (Thorpe) Johnson, who were people of respectability and prominence in their community. The subject was reared under the parental roof and secured his education in the public schools of Marshalltown, his attendance in school ceasing with the completion of the eighth grade. Being ambitious to start out in life on his own account, he then became an apprentice to learn the machinist's trade, and in order that he might make as rapid progress as possible in an accurate knowledge of his trade he also took a full course in the International Correspondence School of Scranton, Pennsylvania. He was compelled, of course, to do all his studying at night, after the hard work of the day, but he was dauntless in his determination and in due time was graduated in the mechanical course and received his diploma. He continued to be employed in the shops of the Iowa Central railroad at Marshalltown more than eleven years, developing into an expert and proficient workman. On February 1, 1897, Mr. Johnson left the Iowa Central and entered the employ of the Chicago Great Western railroad at Des Moines, where he accepted the position of round-house foreman. He performed the duties of this position in an eminently satisfactory manner until February 7, 1907, when he was transferred to Oelwein and promoted to the responsible position of general round-house foreman. In this capacity Mr. Johnson has charge of several co-ordinate departments, each of which is in personal charge of a foreman, and Mr. Johnson's position is one of great responsibility and

importance to the service of the road. He long ago demonstrated mechanical ability of a high order and he has proven equally strong in an executive capacity, everything under his charge moving smoothly, without friction and in such a way as to best facilitate the purpose in view.

On December 24, 1889, Mr. Johnson was united in the holy bonds of matrimony with Margaret Shea, who is a native of the state of Michigan. She is the daughter of ——— and Mary (Sullivan) Shea and at the age of about five years she accompanied her parents on their removal from Michigan to Oelwein, where they now reside. The union of Mr. and Mrs. Johnson has been a most happy and congenial one and has been blessed in the birth of two children, Helen and Lyle.

Fraternally Mr. Johnson is a member of the time-honored order of Freemasonry, having taken the Entered Apprentice degree at Des Moines. He is also a member of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, and the Knights of the Maccabees, having been a member of the last-named order for the past thirteen years. Though unostentatious in personal demeanor, Mr. Johnson is sociably inclined and enjoys the companionship of his friends, whom he numbers by the score. A gentleman in the truest sense of the word, he has so ordered his life as to earn and retain the sincere respect of all who know him.

WILLIAM JAMES MAHONEY.

Many of the best citizens of the prosperous and attractive city of Oelwein, Fayette county, are numbered among the employes of the Chicago Great Western railroad, and among these is he whose name appears at the head of this brief record. Holding a busy and responsible position, he has so served his employing interests as to receive the highest of commendations at various times, being promoted on a number of occasions.

Mr. Mahoney is a native of the state of Minnesota, having first seen the light of day at Austin, that state, on the 27th day of November, 1879. He is a son of Patrick and Margaret Ellen (Clifford) Mahoney, the former of whom was a railroad conductor by profession and a highly esteemed man in his community. The subject spent his early boyhood days at Austin and attended the public and parochial schools. In 1890 the family moved to Oelwein and here the subject continued his educational studies in the public schools. On leaving school, he went to work as call-boy for the Chicago Great Western railroad, and at the age of eighteen years he went to work as a

freight handler in the freight house. He was so occupied about a year, at the end of which time he became night yard clerk and for about two years also served as night ticket agent. He was then promoted to the position of day yard clerk, holding this position about a year and a half. About the first of the year 1903 he was appointed assistant day yard master of the yards at Oelwein, but six months later he relinquished that position and during the following two months he was engaged in switching. At the end of that time he was made night yard master, and in September, 1903, he was appointed general yard master, which position he now holds. He is prompt and efficient in the performance of the duties of this position, which is one of considerable responsibility, and is considered one of the best employes of the Chicago Great Western at this point.

On July 6, 1904, William J. Mahoney was united in marriage to Gertrude McGuire, who was a native of Fairbank, this state, but was at that time living in Oelwein, having moved there in childhood with her parents, Bernard and Susan (Smith) McGuire. To the subject and his wife have been born two children, William Leo and Paul Joseph. Religiously the family are members of the Catholic church, to which they render an earnest and liberal support. Mr. Mahoney is a member of the religious-fraternal order, Knights of Columbus. Personally, Mr. Mahoney enjoys an enviable standing among those who best know him, his personal qualities being of the highest order. Genial in disposition and courteous in manner, he easily makes friends and is popular in the social circles in which he moves.

JOHN F. WILKINSON.

Few residents of Fayette county are as widely known and favorably regarded as John F. Wilkinson, proprietor of "Sunny Side Farm," Scott township, and one of the most successful stock men of northeastern Iowa. His father, John Wilkinson, was born April 13, 1842, grew to maturity in Fond du Lac county, Wisconsin, and came to Iowa a number of years ago, as the representative of a manufacturer of pumps and wind-mills, in connection with which business he also carried on farming. When a young man he married Adella Cowles, who bore him three children, the oldest of whom, George J., was born September, 1865, and died in the year 1903. Esther died at the age of one year, the subject of this sketch being the youngest of the family. George J. Wilkinson was a traveling salesman for some years and at one

time run a meat market in Oelwein. He married Mary Badger, by whom he had two daughters, Lulu and Fern. John Wilkinson departed this life in February, 1872, and his widow subsequently became the wife of Charles E. Wilkinson, of Smithfield township, to whom she bore three children. Alma, now Mrs. Arthur Loomis, Carl E., a farmer of Smithfield township, and a son that died in infancy. Mrs. Wilkinson died in the month of September, 1902, leaving a husband and the two children mentioned alone, the farmer being a resident of Smithfield township and a most worthy citizen.

John F. Wilkinson is a native of Iowa, born in Fayette county on the 12th day of January, 1871. He was reared amid the bracing airs and wholesome influences of the country, early became familiar with the varied labors of the farm, and in the public schools laid the foundation of an educational discipline, which, supplemented by practical knowledge obtained by mingling with his fellow men, has enabled him thus far to discharge the duties of a very active and successful business life. He remained with his parents until 1894, on March 8th of which year he was happily married to Jennie May Doughty, of Smithfield township, and immediately thereafter rented a farm and engaged in the pursuit of agriculture for himself.

After cultivating the soil as a renter for a period of six years, Mr. Wilkinson purchased a farm of one hundred and sixty acres in Scott township where he has since lived and prospered, making a rapid advancement in the meantime and bringing his place to a high state of tillage. His improvements, including residence, barn, outbuildings, fencing, etc., are up-to-date and in first-class condition and it is not too much to say that there is not a finer or more desirable home in the township than the one he owns and few farms in the county present as many evidences of prosperity. While successful as a tiller of the soil, Mr. Wilkinson is better known as a stock raiser, which branch of farming he has found much more satisfactory and remunerative than the raising of grain. He is an expert in all kinds of live stock, his thoroughbred Holstein cattle and Poland-China hogs being among the finest and most valuable in the northeastern part of the state, and he also gives considerable attention to the breeding and raising of draft horses, for which there is always a wide demand at liberal prices. Like a number of other enterprising farmers, he is interested in dairying, keeping from fifteen to twenty excellent milkers, which add very materially to his income, and in the matter of poultry he is also abreast of the times, making a specialty of the Plymouth Rock breed which he markets every year in large numbers, to say nothing of their value as layers.

Mr. Wilkinson stands for modern improvements and advancements and

endeavors to realize within himself his high ideal of progressive American citizenship. He manifests an abiding interest in all public enterprises, takes an active part in promoting measures having for their object the material, social and moral good of the community and is a firm supporter of law and order in all the terms imply. In politics he votes with the Republican party and in religion holds to the Methodist Episcopal creed.

EMERY FROST.

In studying the life history of the late Emery Frost, long a well known resident and popular citizen of Maynard, Fayette county, Iowa, we find many qualities in his makeup that always gain definite success in any career if properly directed, as his was evidently done, which resulted in a life of good to others as well as in a very comfortable competence to himself and family. And fealty to facts in the analyzation of the character of a citizen of the type of Mr. Frost is all that is required to make a biographical sketch interesting to those who have at heart the good name of the community, because it is the honorable reputation of the man of standing and affairs, more than any other consideration that gives stability and character to the body politic and makes the true worth of a locality revered at home and honored abroad. That Mr. Frost was a very potent factor in the material development of the vicinity honored so long by his citizenship, cannot be denied by those at all acquainted with the situation here, for he was ever ready to do his full share in the work of progress and his support could always be depended upon in any movement looking to the good of his town and county. In social and fraternal circles he was highly esteemed, contributing to the advancement of various interests for the intellectual improvement and moral good of his friends and associates.

Emery Frost was born of sterling New England stock that figured more or less conspicuously in various walks of life in the old Pine Tree state for many generations, he himself having first seen the light of day in Lisbon Falls, Maine, on April 7, 1850. He was the son of George Denis and Deborah (Davis) Frost, the father born at Danville, Maine, January 21, 1801, and the mother at Lewiston, that state, August 24, 1808. The latter was a cousin of the mother of Senator Frye, also a cousin of the mother of ex-Governor Garcelon, both of Maine. Mr. Frost's ancestors were Quakers and of English descent. His parents were excellent people and reared their son in a whole-



EMERY FROST.

some home atmosphere, their family consisting of twelve children, Emery being the youngest; all are now deceased with the exception of one son who is still living on the old farm on the Androscoggin river, in Maine. Emery was but five years of age when his father died. At the age of nineteen he started for the West to begin life for himself, his destination being Chicago, where he remained three years with his brother, W. E. Frost. From there he came to West Union, Fayette county, Iowa, and later, in the fall of 1873, he came to Maynard, this county. Here he opened a lumber-yard in partnership with Charles Woodard, his cousin. To this business hardware was added and they enjoyed a very satisfactory trade in both lines, later organizing the Maynard Bank, which was a most successful venture and continued to grow in importance and prestige under the wise and judicious management of Mr. Frost, who, by his straightforward dealings and exemplary character had the confidence and good will of his friends and patrons. He developed marked business ability in his early life as well as in more recent years, and acquired a handsome competency, a beautiful home and in due course of time was one of the most substantial and leading citizens of Maynard and vicinity.

On April 22, 1876, was solemnized the marriage of Emery Frost and Fannie M. Maynard, daughter of Henry Travis Maynard, long an influential and progressive citizen of this county. The mother of Mrs. Frost was known in her maidenhood as Amelia H. Greene, whose grandfather served in the Revolutionary war as a home guard. They were among the representative citizens of Maynard and highly respected by all. The union of Mr. and Mrs. Frost was graced by the birth of two children, Mrs. Orah M. Baker, of Silver City, New Mexico, and Robert Emery Frost, who resides at Fort Shaw, Montana.

Mr. Frost was, in 1877, made a member of the Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, and was the worshipful master of Sunnyside Lodge at Maynard for a number of years. He was also a member of Langridge Commandery, Knights Templar, of West Union, Iowa. Politically he was a Democrat and he took an active part in local political affairs and held many offices of trust in his home town to his own credit and to the entire satisfaction of the public.

This excellent citizen, kind husband and father and generous neighbor and loyal friend was called to his reward on Thursday, May 20, 1909, when a little over fifty-nine years of age.

Mr. Frost was a man of strictest business integrity, public spirited and always honorable, consequently his loss will long be felt by his community, but the good he did will long continue to influence and bless the lives of those with whom he came into contact.

JACOB ELLSWORTH PALMER.

For some years a resident of California, but a native of Clinton county, Iowa, the subject of this review was born December 23, 1868, and is descended paternally from English ancestry and maternally from sterling old Quaker and Dutch stock that figured in the early history of Pennsylvania. His father, William W. Palmer, the son of an English immigrant and a shoemaker by trade, was a native of Guernsey county, Ohio, and his mother, Susan A. Palmer, whose father served as a drummer in the war of 1812, was born and reared in Virginia.

Jacob Ellsworth Palmer received preliminary education in the public schools of the city and at the age of eighteen went to Hawkeye, where an elder brother was engaged in general merchandising. He learned the business in due time and later succeeded to the management of the same during the six years his brother served as county clerk. At the expiration of that period he was appointed postmaster of Hawkeye, which position he held eight years, when he voluntarily resigned and removed to Columbia Heights, Minnesota, where he engaged in the grocery trade. Selling out after a year's experience, he embarked in the lumber business at Mondola, Illinois, finally disposing of his interests in that place and moving to San Jose, California, where after six months sojourn he was made manager of a stock company store, at Campbell, a suburb of the city, which position he still holds.

Mr. Palmer is a progressive, wide-awake business man and has proven eminently capable and trustworthy in the various positions with which from time to time he has been honored. The place he now fills is one of great responsibility, but he has discharged the duties of the trust in an able and satisfactory manner, greatly extending the business and adding continuously to the publicity and popularity of the establishment. At his various places of residence he was keenly alive to the interests of the public, took an active part in every laudable measure for the advancement of the community and exercised an influence for good upon all with whom he came in contact. While at Hawkeye he served two years as secretary of the free library of that city and since his twenty-first year he has been identified with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, in which he has passed all the chairs besides holding for seven years the position of secretary of Camp No. 3882, Modern Woodmen of America of which he is a charter member. In 1905 he was initiated into the Masonic brotherhood and since that time has made commendable progress in the work of the order, manifesting an ardent interest in all that concerns the welfare of the lodge with which he holds membership, at intervals being honored with important official trusts.

On October 29, 1891, Mr. Palmer contracted a matrimonial alliance with Myrtle E. Fitch, of West Union, Iowa, eldest living daughter of G. W. and R. A. Fitch, a lady of intelligence and varied culture, whose friends are as the number of her acquaintances. Mrs. Palmer was born in Fayette county and after being graduated from the high school of her native town engaged in teaching, which she followed for several years, and earned an honorable reputation for the thoroughness of her work, also for her popularity with pupils and patrons. Mr. and Mrs. Palmer are the parents of four children, whose names and dates of birth are as follows: Muriel M., November 7, 1893; Redmond Vane, January 13, 1895; George Fitch, April 13, 1897, and Malcolm William, who first saw the light of day on March 11, 1903.

In his religious faith Mr. Palmer is a Methodist and an earnest and zealous worker in the church to which he belongs. His wife and daughter, also members of the same body, are likewise interested in religious and charitable movements and are highly prized in the local congregation with which identified and do all within their power to promote the varied interests of the same, being especially valuable in the choir work where their musical talents have long been recognized and appreciated.

ALFRED E. THOMAS.

Success does not depend so much upon the possession of talents or powers unusual to the majority of mankind, as upon the exercise of those qualities which are common to all. Hope is of the valley, while Effort is climbing the mountain side, so that personal advancement comes not to the one who hopes alone but to the one whose hope and faith are those of definite action. We may then hold in high regard the result of individual accomplishment and accord due credit and honor to the man who has won success by worthy means. The subject of this sketch holds the responsible position of general foreman of the machine shops of the Chicago Great Western railroad at Oelwein, and his life has been one of consecutive effort and integrity of purpose, while his advancement and success have come as a diametrical result, and to him has not been denied the fullest measure of confidence and esteem.

Alfred E. Thomas was born in Toronto, Canada, November 6, 1862, and is a son of William and Sarah Ann (Harper) Thomas. These worthy parents were natives of Belfast, Ireland, where the family can be traced back through six generations. One uncle of the subject is now pastor of the

largest Methodist church in Belfast. William and Sarah Thomas came to America in 1845, the ocean voyage requiring six weeks, and on their arrival in this continent they located on a farm near Toronto, Canada, where the subject was born and reared. He received his education in the public schools and at the age of fourteen years he entered the shops of the Credit Valley railroad as an apprentice to learn the machinist's trade. That road was afterwards absorbed by the Canadian Pacific railroad and he remained with the new road ten years. His apprenticeship was for a period of seven years, but he spent three years longer there as a machinist, and then went to Detroit, Michigan, where for nine months he was employed in the shops of a ship yard. He next entered the Port Huron shops of the Chicago & Grand Trunk railroad, where he remained two years, and at the end of that time he returned to Toronto and again entered the Canadian Pacific shops, where he remained three years as a machinist. In 1890 Mr. Thomas went to St. Paul, Minnesota, and during the following three years he was in the employ of the Chicago, St. Paul & Kansas City (now the Chicago Great Western) railroad. During the next four years he was a machinist in the shops of the Chicago, St. Paul, Minneapolis & Omaha, at St. Paul, and in 1897 he returned to the Chicago Great Western, being put in charge of night work in their shops at St. Paul. In the spring of 1899 the Chicago Great Western shops at Oelwein were completed and he was sent here to install the machinery and take charge of the machine shop. He occupied this position three years, and his faithfulness and efficiency were then rewarded by promotion to the responsible position of general foreman of the machine shops, which position he now holds. Mr. Thomas is a most thorough machinist, being familiar with every detail of the work, and in his capacity as a superintendent he has exhibited administrative qualities of the highest order, winning the frequent commendation of his superiors. He has a large number of men under him, all of whom recognize his sterling qualities of manhood as well as his ability as a mechanic.

In 1885 Mr. Thomas was united in marriage with Lizzie Ankatell, a native of Ireland, who came to America in 1870 with her parents, James and Eliza Ann (Steen) Ankatell. To Mr. and Mrs. Thomas have been born two children. The eldest, Percy Wilfred, who is a machinist in the railroad shops at Oelwein, married Edna Hocking, of Oelwein, though born in Toronto, Canada, and they have one child, Mildred Elizabeth. The youngest child, Bessie, is the wife of Charles McLean, of Oelwein, a machinist in the railroad shops, and they have two children, Doris Elizabeth and Malcolm. Fraternally Mr. Thomas is a member of the Ancient Order of United Workmen and the Modern Woodmen of America. Personally Mr. Thomas is a man of marked

intelligence and gentlemanly bearing, and in the circles in which he moves he enjoys the highest regard. He is interested in the community and gives his support to every movement calculated to benefit his fellow citizens.

WALTER P. CHRYSLER.

Practical industry wisely and vigorously applied never fails of success. It carries a man onward and upward, brings out his individual character and acts as a powerful stimulus to the efforts of others. The greatest results in life are often attained by simple means and the exercise of the ordinary qualities of common sense and perseverance. The every-day life, with its cares, necessities and duties, affords ample opportunities for acquiring experience of the best kind and its most beaten paths provide a true worker with abundant scope for effort and self improvement. Among the energetic and successful citizens of Oelwein, none holds a higher position in the regard of those who know him than does Walter P. Chrysler, superintendent of motive power for the Chicago Great Western railroad.

Mr. Chrysler was born in Wamego, Kansas, April 2, 1871, and is a son of Henry and Mary (Breyman) Chrysler. Henry Chrysler was a locomotive engineer on the old Kansas Pacific (now Union Pacific) railroad, whose termini were Kansas City and Denver, though at that time Wamego was the western end. Mr. Chrysler was on construction work and when the road was completed as far as Ellis, Kansas, he moved to that point and remained there until the subject was twenty-one years of age. The latter received his preliminary education in the public schools, graduating from the high school at the age of seventeen years.

When ready to take up the active duties of life, Walter Chrysler became a laborer in the shops of the Union Pacific railroad. Eight months later he entered the machine shops as an apprentice, serving two years there and completing his apprenticeship at Omaha, Nebraska. In the meantime he was attending night school and taking a course in mechanical drawing and mechanical engineering, and he also took a course in mechanical and electrical engineering from the International Correspondence Schools of Scranton, Pennsylvania, in which course he was graduated and granted a diploma. Leaving the Union Pacific he went to Wellington, Kansas, and entered the employ of the Santa Fe system as a machinist, but eight months later he was transferred to the general shops at Topeka, Kansas, where he became foreman of the

erecting shops. Two years later he entered the employ of the Rio Grande Western at Salt Lake City. He entered the employ of this road as a machinist, but five months later he was promoted to the position of foreman of the roundhouse, which position he retained two years. At the end of that time he accepted the position of general foreman for the Colorado Southern, at Trinidad, Colorado, where he remained about two years. He then went to Childress, Texas, as master mechanic for the Fort Worth & Denver City railroad, which position he retained until 1906. In that year he came to Oelwein as master mechanic in the shops of the Chicago Great Western railroad, and on December 21, 1907, he was promoted to the position of superintendent of motive power for the entire system of that road. This responsible position he is now filling to the entire satisfaction of his superiors. His intimate knowledge, both practical and theoretical, of mechanics, admirably qualifies him for almost any position in the mechanical department of a great railroad system and in his present position he is giving the best of satisfaction. The duties of the office are multitudinous and of the greatest responsibility, but Mr. Chrysler has been able to handle the operation of the road with ease and dispatch. He is extremely popular with both his superiors and the men under him, who recognize his sterling qualities and his practical worth, and in the community no citizen stands higher in popular regard.

On June 4, 1900, Mr. Chrysler was married to Della Forker, who was born at Ellis, Kansas, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George Forker, natives of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. To the subject and wife have been born three children, Thelma, Bernice and Walter P. In politics Mr. Chrysler is a staunch Republican, but is not an aspirant for public office, though he takes an intelligent interest in public affairs. Fraternally he is a member of the Masonic order, in which he has taken the Scottish-Rite degrees up to and including the thirty-second, belonging to the consistory at Salina, Kansas. He is also a member of Isis Temple, Ancient Arabic Order of Nobles of the Mystic Shrine, at Salina. The Woodmen of the World also claim his membership.

WILLIAM H. STEWART.

A well known and highly respected farmer of Harlan township, Fayette county, is William H. Stewart, who was born at Sidney, Ohio, December 3, 1838, and he was educated there and in Fayette county, Iowa, whither he moved when a boy. He is the son of Henry and Elizabeth (Golden) Stew-

art, both natives of Cumberland county, Pennsylvania, the father born April 10, 1801, and the mother in 1805. They were married in Pennsylvania and immediately moved to Ohio, locating at Dayton, but soon afterwards moved to Sidney, where Mr. Stewart conducted a flour mill. He was a millwright by profession. In the fall of 1855 he sold out and drove overland to Iowa, locating in Windsor township, Fayette county, buying a farm of one hundred and twenty acres and on this he lived until old age, when he sold out and made his home with his daughter, Mrs. Gardner, of Hawkeye. He and his wife were the parents of six children, two of whom died in Ohio; the others were, Samuel C. went to California when seventeen years old and made his home there until his death, in 1908; Mrs. Martha A. Gardner lives at Hawkeye with her daughter, Mrs. Laura Shales; James G. was county treasurer of Fayette county for two years; he died on January 21, 1899; William H., of this review.

Henry Stewart, father of these children, was a Republican and a member of the Presbyterian church; his death occurred on August 30, 1891; Mrs. Stewart died on January 13, 1886.

William H. Stewart lived on the farm with his parents until 1864, when he married and conducted his parents' farm for three years, when he bought a farm of one hundred and twenty acres in Windsor township where he lived until 1877, when he sold and bought one hundred and sixty acres in section 9, Harlan township, where he at present resides.

Having been subject to rheumatism in his younger years, Mr. Stewart did not go to war in the sixties, but remained at home and cared for his parents while his brother, James G., served throughout the conflict in the Twelfth Iowa Infantry, having enlisted as a private, but was promoted to orderly sergeant.

William H. Stewart is a Republican, but has never aspired to public office. He holds membership with the Methodist Episcopal church.

On February 18, 1864, Mr. Stewart married Stella B. Ketchum, who was born in Dupage county, Illinois, February 2, 1845, and was the daughter of Edmond R. and Jane (Curry) Ketchum, natives of Orange county, New York. At the time of their marriage they moved to Hancock county, Illinois, where they lived for several years and reared children, five in number, when Mr. Ketchum sold out and moved to Dupage county, where two more children were born. They were seven in all, four boys and three girls, namely: Mary Roe, Andrew Jackson, Phineas Rice, Eugene, Amos K., Stella B. and Ellen Jane. In May, 1848, Mrs. Ketchum died and in 1849 Mr. Ketchum married a second time, having espoused Mrs. Jane Winters. To this union were

born two children, Flora (Ketchum) Burling and Josephine (Ketchum) Moody. In the year 1855 Mr. Ketchum sold his farm in Illinois and moved to Milwaukee, Wisconsin, and in 1857 moved to Fayette county, Iowa, and located on a farm of one hundred and twenty acres in Windsor township. Selling out in the fall of 1882, Mr. Ketchum moved to Nebraska and entered a claim on which he remained a few years, then moved to Postville, Allamakee county, Iowa, where he and his wife spent the remainder of their lives. Mr. Ketchum died April 16, 1895, aged eighty-two years, and Mrs. Ketchum died in February, 1899, aged eighty-six years.

Mr. and Mrs. Stewart are the parents of eight children, namely: Edmond H., born November 21, 1867, resides in Maynard and is in the agricultural implement business; Minnie M. died in infancy; Mabel J. is the wife of Arthur Knight, a farmer of Harlan township; she was born February 5, 1874; Paul P., born January 1, 1877, resides in Harlan township and is a successful farmer; Samuel C., was born February 18, 1879, and is also a farmer; Walter C., who is a veterinarian at West Union, was born June 28, 1881; Dale B., born September 24, 1883, was student in the Ohio State University at Columbus; he graduated as veterinary surgeon in June, 1910; Wesley J., born April 21, 1886, lives on the farm with his parents.

WILLARD J. AINSWORTH.

Willard Joseph Ainsworth was born in West Union, Fayette county, Iowa, December 27, 1870. He is the fourth son of Lucian L. and Margaret E. (McCool) Ainsworth, his father being a native of New Woodstock, New York, and coming to Iowa in 1855, and his mother coming originally from the state of Pennsylvania.

"Joe" Ainsworth was one of a family of five children, who grew up together and were educated in the town of West Union. He graduated from the West Union high school in the spring of 1887 and shortly after went to New Hampton as a clerk in the postoffice, where he remained about a year. In September, 1888, he enrolled as a freshman in Upper Iowa University at Fayette and completed the four-year scientific course and graduated with credit in the class of 1891. Soon after his graduation he went to Oelwein where he read law with George H. Phillips and practiced some in justice courts. In the winter of 1892 he was made a committee clerk in the state Senate at Des Moines and served during the entire session of the twenty-

fourth General Assembly. From there he went to the State University at Iowa City and enrolled in the spring term as a law student. He applied himself diligently to his law studies and in June, 1893, received the degree of Bachelor of Laws and was admitted to practice in the state and federal courts. Coming back home, he at once became the junior member of the law firm of Ainsworth, Hobson & Ainsworth. Mr. Hobson being elected judge of the district court in the fall of 1895, left father and son practicing as one firm in the offices over the postoffice.

Shortly after his father's death in April, 1902, Mr. Ainsworth became senior member of the firm of Ainsworth, Dykins & Estey, from which Mr. Dykins retired in December, 1903. Mr. Estey retired in January, 1906. Mr. Ainsworth practiced alone until January, 1908, when a partnership was formed with C. B. Hughes, with offices over the Fayette County National Bank, and under the firm name of Ainsworth & Hughes. Mr. Ainsworth had long been local attorney for the Chicago Great Western Railway Company, and in February, 1908, was called to St. Paul, Minnesota, to fill the position of assistant general attorney of that company, and in charge of the personal injury department. He performed the arduous duties of a "railroad lawyer" in a highly creditable manner until April, 1909, when, the railway company being in the hands of a receiver and its future somewhat uncertain, he resigned his position and moved back to West Union to enter the general practice in the partnership formed in 1908. Upon the reorganization of the Chicago Great Western Railway Company in 1909, he became local attorney for the new company and holds the position at the present time. During his legal career, he has held the office of city attorney and for a number of years has been the legal member of the commissioners of insanity for Fayette county.

As a lawyer, measured along the lines of natural ability, industry, fearlessness, fairness and integrity, Mr. Ainsworth now stands among the leaders of the Iowa bar. He numbers among his clients many of the stronger financial interests of the county and enjoys to a marked degree the good will and confidence of the large number of people to whom he is known. As a counselor, he is careful, conscientious, thorough, and strives to discourage litigation when it can be avoided. In the trial court, he adheres closely to the real merits of his cause and presents the issues with clearness and force. It should be said, however, that one of the principal reasons for his success as a lawyer, is the absolute honesty and trustworthiness in his private and professional life, and this exceptional quality, added to his natural and developed talents, well equips him for an increasing success and a useful and honored career in his chosen work.

Mr. Ainsworth has given considerable attention to the welfare of the Fayette County Savings Bank, having served on its board of directors a number of years and now holding the office of vice-president. As a fraternalist he has given much time and is a member of Arbor Vitae Camp No. 292, Modern Woodmen of America, and of West Union Lodge No. 69, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, having been made a Master Mason at the age of twenty-one and filling a number of the responsible stations in the lodge. He is a member of Ansel Humphrey Chapter No. 80, Royal Arch Masons, at Fayette, and affiliated with Langridge Commandery No. 47, Knights Templar, at West Union. In July, 1908, he became a noble of the Ancient Arabic Order of Nobles of the Mystic Shrine in Osman Temple, St. Paul, Minnesota, and a Master of the Royal Secret of the Thirty-second Degree, Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite, in Zarephath Consistory, Davenport, Iowa, in March, 1910.

Mr. Ainsworth was united in marriage with Mabel Thorne at Youngstown, Ohio, on November 30, 1899. Mrs. Ainsworth was born and educated in Ohio and is the daughter of John F. and Betsey (Jacobs) Thorne, her father being a soldier of the Civil war. She is a member of West Union Chapter No. 110, Order of the Eastern Star, and of the Daughters of the American Revolution. To them have been born three children, Josephine, aged ten years, Philip, who died December 14, 1906, at the age of six months, and Sallie Belle, born August 30, 1909. Mr. and Mrs. Ainsworth own a beautiful home on South Vine street and add much to the social, civic, and literary life of the city in which they reside.

CHARLES W. DYKINS.

This attorney and counsellor at law is an honorable representative of two of the old and well known families of Fayette county and dates his birth from the 8th day of November, 1873, being one of five children whose parents, Charles C. and Mary Dykins, were among the early pioneers of Auburn and Eden townships. Charles C. Dykins was one of the first merchants of West Union, also a leading man of affairs during the formative period of this part of the state, but having accumulated a competency, he discontinued business some years ago and is now living a life of retirement in that town. His wife, whose maiden name was Mary Strong, was reared in Auburn township, where her parents settled as early as 1850 or '51, having been among the first comers

to that part of the county and prominent in all matters relating to the development and growth of the locality in which they made their home.

Of the five children born to Charles C. and Mary Dykins, two died in infancy, those living being as follows: Albert W., a prosperous farmer and stock raiser residing southwest of Ramona; Nora E., who lives with her parents, and Charles W., the subject of this review.

The early life of Charles W. Dykins on the family homestead in Eden township was similar in most respects to that of the majority of lads reared under the wholesome influence of the farm, his experience including labor in the fields as soon as old enough for his efforts to be utilized to advantage, alternated by attendance in the public schools of Alpha and Waucoma during the fall and winter months. After finishing the prescribed branches of study, he took a special business course at Poughkeepsie, New York, following which he yielded to a long-felt desire by entering the law department of the University of Iowa, where he prepared himself for the legal profession. Mr. Dykins was graduated from the latter institution in the year 1898, shortly after which he became a partner of Hon. S. S. Ainsworth, of West Union, the firm thus constituted lasting until the death of the senior member, when a new partnership was established by the subject and W. J. Ainsworth. The latter gentleman retiring, the firm became known as Dykins & Estey, under which name it continued until December, 1904, when it was dissolved by mutual consent and since that time Mr. Dykins has been alone in the practice.

While well grounded in the principles of jurisprudence and successful in all phases of the practice, Mr. Dykins devotes special attention to abstract work, land titles, etc., in which he has built up an extensive and lucrative business, being recognized as an authority on all matters relating to real estate as well as a safe and reliable counsellor in other branches of the law. His success has been pronounced and although among the younger members of the Fayette county bar he has a large clientele and is now one of the financially solid men of the town honored by his citizenship. He has a commodious and finely equipped office in the large business block which he owns.

Since engaging in the practice of his profession he has applied himself with more than ordinary diligence and assiduity, while his thorough knowledge of all he undertakes and loyalty to the interests of his clients have not only redounded greatly to his financial advantage, but have gained for him much more than local repute among the enterprising and successful lawyers of the northeastern part of the state.

Mr. Dykins takes an active interest in secret fraternal work and is an influential member of several societies founded upon this principle, being

identified with Windsor Lodge, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, Unity Chapter, Royal Arch Masons, at Elgin, and Langridge Commandery, Knights Templar, at West Union, and the Order of the Eastern Star at the place last named. From time to time he has been honored with important offices in the above organizations and in his relations with his fellow men he has ever tried to exemplify the noble principles and precepts by which the order is governed.

A reader, a thinker and an intelligent observer, Mr. Dykins is well informed on the leading questions of the day and keeps fully abreast of the times on all matters in which the public is interested. He is a Republican in politics and though firmly grounded in the principles of his party and a judicious adviser in its councils, he cannot be termed a politician nor has he ever entered the arena as an office-seeker or aspirant for leadership. In addition to the property interests in West Union already referred to, he owns one of the beautiful and attractive homes of the town and has been a stockholder in the First National Bank of Hawkeye ever since its organization, besides owning an interest in one of the largest and most valuable business blocks in the latter place.

Mr. Dykins' home is presided over by an intelligent and accomplished lady, to whom he was united in the bonds of wedlock, November 8, 1900, and who, prior to that time, bore the name of Fannie L. Ainsworth. Mrs. Dykins is a daughter of Dr. E. A. Ainsworth, of West Union, and, as indicated above, possesses many sterling qualities of mind and heart and, with her husband, manifests a lively interest in the social life of the town, although of domestic tastes and a lover of her own fireside. The home of this estimable couple has been gladdened by the presence of one child, an interesting little daughter who answers to the name of Dora, and who bears the weight of her six years with the grace and dignity becoming one who realizes her importance as an influential factor in the domestic circle.